









# R E P O R T S

F R O M

## C O M M I T T E E S

O F   T H E

### H O U S E   *o f*   C O M M O N S.

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Printed by Order of the House.

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V O L.   I I I.



REPORT of Materials expended on the Fortification Service, from 12 to 18 inclusive *Osaber* 1770.

Days of the Month.	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12 Inch Bricks.	33,000	291	10,432	20	—	—	—
Chunam.	16,000	771	10,396	10	950	—	—
Soorkey.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coah.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaggery.	139	131	31	56	—	—	—
Straw.	—	—	12	147	11	—	—
Bambooes.	—	—	2	12	232	—	—
Sute Rope.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sute.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goram Sticks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Posts.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dorma Mats.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oglaw ditto.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Europe Paper.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bengal ditto.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Quills.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gurrah.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red ditto.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dammer.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
White Lead.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Padoocks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coarse Soorkey.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wax Candles.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gunny Bags.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt Buzar Gurrans Sticks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teak Timber.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writing Sand.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Europe Pounce.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wax Cloth.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saul Timbers.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inch Boards.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teak Planks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wafers.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Country Red Ink.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andvell.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Water Shin Bags.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E Linfeed Oil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brais Hinges.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Head Screws.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
China Books.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Dammer.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Paper.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

N. B. The above Materials expended upon the Retaining Wall of the Counter-guard, Covert Way, New great Sluices to the River Glacis, and Retaining Wall of the Glacis of *Poufflant* Ravelin, Traverses, and Places of Arms, *Sauils*, *Peacocks* and *Civet's* Ravelin, Covert Way, and Places of Arms, Artillery Barracks, Main Guard, and Congee House, during the *Parapets* of the Body of the Place, and repairing.

(Signed)

J. A. de la Camp, Jr.

Chief Engineer.

# 762 1773. NINTH REPORT *from the Committee of Secrecy*

## APPENDIX, N<sup>o</sup> 9.

*Fort William, 3d January 1772.*

At a Consultation,

### P R E S E N T,

The honourable *John Cartier*, Esquire, President,

*Samuel Middleton,*  
*William Aldersey,*  
*Philip M. Davies,*  
*Thomas Lane,* } Esquires.

The President begs Leave to make the following Remarks on the extraordinary Letter from Major *Henry Watson*, referred to the Board by the Military Committee.

I am sensible, Gentlemen, that the Letter now laid before us, for our Consideration, is of that serious Nature which requires a clear, candid, and impartial, Explanation, to justify our Conduct before our honourable Masters; for if no Answer should be made, it is most likely that the specious Arguments set forth by Major *Watson* will be received as certain Facts, and we considered to have dealt unfaithfully towards them, or partially towards another.

The Terms entered into with the Brick Contractors of Last Year were judged the most favourable, as well as equitable, that ever had before been offered to the Company, and there was not the least Hesitation made by the Board in accepting them in Preference to any other that was offered. The Terms, as you must well remember, were, that the Contractor should deliver Eleven Brick Bricks to the Company, at 6. 8. per Thousand; that the Advances of Money should not be made to him, but the Bricks paid for on Delivery. On the Part of the Company, it was agreed that they should provide Fire-wood for the Use of the Contractor at a certain Rate, which he was to account for to them at particular Periods of his Contract. The Contractor was to deliver Three Croze of Bricks in the Course of the Season. The Collector General was requested to make Contracts with responsible Inhabitants, for a Quantity of Fire-wood adequate to the burning of so many Bricks, as it was imagined the Whole would be cut in the Districts of his Department. The Difficulty of engaging Men to undertake the Whole of this Contract occasioned a considerable Part of the fine Season to elapse, before the Deliveries of Wood were in any Proportion to the Demand for that Article by the Brick Contractor; and, when all their Agreements were made, some Weeks Interregnum occurred in the *Ingelet* Districts, that greatly retarded this Business. This occasioned not only an immediate but a heavy Loss to the Contractor, who, concluding that his supply of Fire-wood would be ready and sufficient, had many Lacks of Raw Bricks on the Ground in *January* last, that were entirely destroyed by Two Days Rain which fell at that Time. The Remembrance of the Season, you must all remember, was wet, and unfavourable for the making of Bricks, and the Supply of Wood was then not equal to the Demand of the Brick Contractor.

Before the Expiration of the Brick Contract, the Contractor addressed the Military Committee, setting forth the Disappointments he had suffered, in different Ways, during the Period he held the Contract; and requesting, that he might either have the Contract continued to him for the ensuing Season, or some Consideration made him for Losses and Disappointments, neither of which had been occasioned by any Neglect or Inattention of his own. The Military Committee, fully convinced of the Justness of the Contractor's Representations, were more inclined to give him the Contract for the ensuing Year, as a Compensation for his Loss, than any Remittance in Money; and they were the better disposed to this Measure from the just

and equitable Terms of the Contract in the former Season, and the general Approbation it met with.

I have thought necessary so far to premise, that it may clearly appear wherefore the Military Committee have thought themselves obliged to consider the late Contractor as intitled to a Preference with them in the Disposal of the present Year's Contract; and, by a particular Detail of Facts, to overtret those Insinuations of a Defect of Zeal to the Interest of our honourable Employers, which seem to be implied in the Address now before us.

I must do Major *Watson* the Justice to say, that his Proposals are clear, and equally equitable with those of the late Contractor, and by them, if the honourable Company should ever purchase the Docks, a considerable Saving should be made on Account of the Omision of any Charge for the Fixation of that Earth which would be necessary in making the Bricks. But if the Docks should not be purchased by the Company, the Terms of each Contract stand exactly on the same Footing, excepting only the Encouragement which I consider to be the Duty of Government to give to a Work of this Nature, and to him who conducts it. Were Major *Watson's* Terms ever so low, his Profession, and being a Servant of the Company, would entirely disqualify him, by a standing Order of the Company's, from holding any Contract; but as he is engaged in a Work of public Utility, in which a great Expence, as well as a great Risque, is incurred, I consider that the Board may have a Power, in such an Instance, to waive this particular Prohibition: And I must observe, that had the former Contractor met with no Disappointments, from a Failure in our Part of the last Contract, I should not have had any Difficulty in my Mind to prefer Major *Watson's* Proposals to any other: But such being the Case, it was my Opinion, that something was due to the former Contractor; and I judge, that to give him Half the Contract for the present Year, on the same Terms it was held the preceding, would be the best, the cheapest, and most equitable Mode of affording him a just Satisfaction; and that Major *Watson* should have the Grant of the other Part of the Contract; viz. for burning One Croze and an Half of Bricks. This has been tendered to him, but he has thought proper absolutely to refuse it, and for the Reasons which carry their Force more in Words than in Facts, and are intended more to convey a very specious Idea of the moderate Spirit, and the nicer Feelings of Humanity, than I can think justly due to that Gentleman: If I mistake not, Major *Watson* engaged to provide Two Croze of Bricks, or indeed any unlimited Quantity that the Company might require; if the Quantity be confined to Two Croze, he has only been deprived of Fifty Lacks from the last Quantity for which he would at first have engaged; and as he had Assurances that he should have Half the Number of Brick Makers and Coolies which were employed by the other Contractor, I am really at a Loss to imagine Major *Watson's* Reasons for rejecting the Proposals made to him by the Committee, unless he be determined to compel them into his own Measures, as if obtain a Preference to every other Person, or to lay the Blame upon them for discouraging so useful and necessary a Work as the Construction of the Docks. Indeed, Gentlemen, I consider the Style of Major *Watson's* Letter to convey Threats of this Nature, and because of the Indulgence which our Representations have obtained to him from the Court of Directors, he conceives himself privileged to ask, nay, to demand, what Favours he pleases; without reflecting that it behoves this Board to act with impartial Justice to all. The Major's Reasons may be just, his Representations may be well deserving of Attention; but is the Government to have no other Views but his? To consider no other Person but him? I cannot help declaring, that the Conduct which Major *Watson* has been pleased to observe upon this Occasion has, to me, somewhat the Appearance of

*Presumption*

Prefumption and Obstinacy; and I doubt not but it will be regarded in the same Light by our honourable Employers. The Proposals which he made in his last Address to the Committee, for taking the Contract upon lower Terms than he had at first offered, ought not, I think, to have that Weight with the Board which he seems very desirous to give them; because he must well have known that our Engagements with the former Contractor were then too far agreed upon to be broke off; as the Kilns were absolutely forming, and several Thousands of Raw Bricks already made, for the Performance of his new Contract.

It is my Duty to inform the Board, that in every Application made to me by Major *Watson*, relative to the useful Work he has undertaken, I have given him every Support in my Power, which was not absolutely contrary to positive Restrictions; and I dare say he will do me the Justice to declare the same: But I must remark, upon this Occasion, that the Undertaking of any of the Company's public Contracts, as an Assistance to the Execution of his Scheme, is a Mode newly thought of by the Major, and which I am persuaded was never considered in the Calculations made by him and Col. *Campbell*, when the Work was originally projected; at least, I have been assured by the latter of these Gentlemen, that no such Design was at that Time intended: But it would now appear, from Major *Watson's* Representations, that the executing the Brick Contract is indispensable to the carrying on of this Work; and that we must comply with his Request in its full Extent for the Whole of the Contract, otherwise it will not answer; for he has refused to accept of the Half of it upon his own Terms. If the having of this Contract was an Object of such real Importance to the carrying on of his Works, I cannot imagine how the Half of it should become so insignificant as to be rejected. The natural Conclusion is, that Major *Watson* must have every Thing he grasps at, and in the Manner he prescribes himself, otherwise he will not submit, though evidently for his own Advantage, to the Arrangements

made by Government. As to his Remark, That the Brick Contract being in Two Hands would be an endless Matter of Controversy, and an Impediment to the Execution of the Contract; I must differ from him on this Subject, and observe, in Support of my Opinion, that in the Year 1770, when the Contract was held by Four different Persons, a larger Quantity of Bricks was delivered than in any former Year.

Although well inclined to wish the greatest Success to the Construction of the Docks, both from public and private Motives, it would rather be allowing Major *Watson* too large a Share of Merit, to consider him as the only Person influenced by the Spirit of Zeal for the Welfare of his Country, and the honourable Company in this Settlement; and though ready to give every Kind of Merit to so large an Undertaking, yet I am persuaded that other Motives, besides that of Zeal, have stimulated him to this Undertaking, and induce him to proceed in the Execution of it.

*John Cartier.*

The Board are unanimously of Opinion, that the President's Minute is a clear Elucidation of the whole Proceeding of the Brick Contract, and points out very fully, that Major *Watson* has no true Cause of Complaint; as the Committee have been as much inclined to consider his Proposals, and to give every Weight to his particular Situation, as they could do, consistent with Justice to the former Contractor: That it would appear that Major *Watson* studied more his own Convenience than the Engagements; that Justice which the Administration do consider themselves bound to observe to all; that his Insinuations of a Defect of Zeal is equally unjust and ill placed, as he has received repeated Instances of the ready Alacrity which Government have at all Times been ready to give him, to remove every Obstacle that may be an Interruption to his Plan of erecting Docks.

19 June 1773.

Errors excepted.

*Sam. Wilks;*



# L I S T   O F   R E P O R T S

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E   O F   S E C R E C Y

A P P O I N T E D   T O   E N Q U I R E   I N T O

The S T A T E   o f   t h e   *E A S T   I N D I A*   C O M P A N Y ,

C O N T A I N E D   I N   T H I S   V O L U M E .

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F I R S T  
R E P O R T  
FROM THE  
COMMITTEE OF SECRECY  
APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO  
T H E S T A T E  
OF THE  
E A S T I N D I A C O M P A N Y.

Reported on the 7th Day of *December* 1772.

Together with an A P P E N D I X thereunto.



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F I R S T

R E P O R T

FROM THE

COMMITTEE OF SECRECY

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

THE STATE OF THE *EAST INDIA* COMPANY.

*The 7th Day of December 1772.*

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The Committee of Secrecy "appointed to enquire  
 " into the State of the *East India* Company ; and,  
 " for that Purpose, to inspect the Books and Ac-  
 " counts of the said Company ; and to report to  
 " the House what they find material therein, in  
 " respect to the Debts, Credits, and Effects, of  
 " the Company, as also to the Management and  
 " present Situation, of the Company's Affairs ;  
 " together with their Observations thereupon ;"  
 have, pursuant to the Instruction given them by  
 the House, proceeded in the First Place to en-  
 quire "into the late Proceedings of the said  
 " Company, in Relation to the Appointment of  
 " Commissioners for superintending and regulating  
 " the Company's Affairs at their Presidencies in  
 " the *East Indies* :—" And find,

**T**HAT the Proposal, for a superintending Com-  
 mission to regulate the Company's Affairs at  
 their Presidencies in the *East Indies*, first be-  
 gan in the Committee of Correspondence of the said  
 Company, upon the 29th of July 1772 ; when the said  
 Committee having taken into their most serious Con-  
 sideration the State of the Company's Three Pre-  
 sidencies of *Fort William*, *Fort St. George*, and *Bombay*,  
 and thinking it of the highest Importance that the most  
 vigorous and effectual Measures should be speedily  
 taken to reform the Evils and Abuses subsisting there,  
 resolved unanimously, to recommend to the Court of

Directors, as their Opinion " That the present State of  
 " the Company's Affairs at their said Presidencies do  
 " require a superintending Commission with extraordi-  
 " nary Powers."

Which Resolution being, on the 5th Day of *August*  
 following, laid before a Court of Directors, they agreed  
 with the Committee of Correspondence therein ; and  
 then resolved, That a General Court of the Company  
 be summoned to meet on the 12th of *August* ; and that  
 the abovementioned Resolution be communicated to  
 them for their Confirmation.

And Your Committee further find, That on the  
 said 12th Day of *August* the said Resolution hav-  
 ing been laid before a General Court, and a Mo-  
 tion being there made to agree with the Court of  
 Directors in their Opinion, it was resolved by the  
 General Court, That the further Consideration of the  
 said Motion should be deferred until that Day Seven-  
 night ;—on which Day, being the 19th Day of *August*,  
 the Chairman acquainted the General Court, that in  
 pursuance of their Resolution of the 12th, the Court  
 was met on the further Consideration of the Motion  
 then made " That this Court doth agree with the Court  
 " of Directors in their Opinion, That the present State  
 " of the Company's Affairs at their Presidencies of *Ben-  
 gal*, *Fort St. George*, and *Bombay*, doth require a super-  
 " intending Commission with extraordinary Powers."

And the Court entering upon the further Considera-  
 tion thereof accordingly ;

#### 4 1772. FIRST REPORT from the Committee of Secrecy

It was moved, That an Amendment be made to the said Motion by an Addition as follows ;

" And that it be referred to the Court of Directors to prepare an extraordinary Commission, appoint proper Persons to carry the same into Execution, and report their Proceedings to a General Court :—"

And a Debate arising on the said Amendment ; and also on a further Amendment of the Word " appoint " to the Word " recommend " ;

The Question was put, to agree with the said Amendments,

And upon a Division of the Court, it appeared that there were 103 for the Amendments, and 86 against them.

And it was accordingly resolved, That the said Amendments do stand as Part of the Question proposed ; *viz.*

" That this Court doth agree with the Court of Directors in their Opinion, That the present State of the Company's Affairs at their Presidencies of Bengal, Fort St. George, and Bombay, doth require a superintending Commission with extraordinary Powers ; and that it be referred to the Court of Directors to prepare an extraordinary Commission, recommend proper Persons to carry the same into Execution, and report their Proceedings to a General Court :—"

And the same being so declared from the Chair ;

The further Debate on the Question, so amended, was adjourned to that Day Sevennight ;—on which Day, being the 26th Day of August, the said General Court having amended the said Question, by leaving out the Words " an extraordinary " and inserting the Word " such " instead thereof ; it was resolved, That the Question, so amended, should be put by the Ballot on the 2d Day of September, and the Determination thereof be reported to the General Court the same Evening.

And Your Committee find, That on the said 2d Day of September, upon the Report of the Ballot on the said Question, there were 331 Votes for the Question, and 146 against it.

And Your Committee find, That at a Court of Directors, held on the 22d Day of the same Month September, it was ordered, That it be referred to a Committee of the whole Court, to consider of what is necessary to be done in Consequence of the Resolution of the General Court of the 2d Instant ; *viz.*

" That the present State of the Company's Affairs at their Presidencies of Bengal, Fort St. George, and Bombay, doth require a superintending Commission with extraordinary Powers ; and that it be referred to the Court of Directors to prepare such Commission, recommend proper Persons to carry the same into Execution, and report their Proceedings to a General Court ; " and to report their Opinion thereon, from Time to Time, to the Court of Directors.

And Your Committee observe, That at a Committee of the whole Court, upon the 24th Day of the same Month September, the Question was proposed, " That the Committee do consider of the Regulations necessary to put a Stop to the Evils complained of in India, prior to going into the Commission :—"

And the said Question was put by the Ballot, and passed in the Negative.

And then the said Committee adjourned the further Consideration of the said Reference to Tuesday the 29th of the same Month ;—on which Day the Committee having deliberated on the Nature and Extent of the Powers to be delegated by the intended Commission, and under what Title the Persons constituted to execute such Powers should act, whether as a Select Committee, with the like Authorities as had been granted to such Committees, or as Commissioners according to the late Appointment in 1769 ; it was resolved, on a Question

put by the Ballot, " That a superintending Commission be appointed for the Regulation of the Company's Affairs in the East Indies."

And the said Committee of the whole Court then proceeded to consider of the Number of Gentlemen, of which it would be most proper, and conducive to obtain the Ends thereby proposed, that the said Commission should consist ; it was, after a very attentive Deliberation, unanimously resolved, " That the superintending Commission do consist of Nine Persons, Six whereof to be sent from hence, and the other Three to consist of the Governor, Secretary in Council, and Commander in Chief."

And the said Committee then agreed to adjourn, till the 6th of October, the Consideration of the Powers proper to be granted by the said Commission ; and ordered, that, in the mean Time, each Director be furnished with a Copy of the Commission and Instructions given to the Commissioners appointed in 1769.

And on the said 6th Day of October, the said Committee of the whole Court taking into Consideration the Powers proper to be granted ;

And Charles Sayer, Esquire, the Company's standing Counsel, having accordingly prepared a Draft of a Commission for that Purpose, the same was read : And it being proposed that the Opinions of the Attorney and Solicitor General should be taken on the said Draft ; it passed in the Negative :—Then the Draft being again read, and maturely considered Clause by Clause, several Amendments made thereto, and the Blanks filled up, the further Consideration of the said Draft was adjourned to the 8th of October ;—on which Day it was again read, with Mr. Sayer's Approval, and Opinion that it is legal ; and it was then agreed, That the Opinions also of Mr. Wallace, Mr. Skynner, and Mr. Jackson, be taken, " If the said Commission is legal ; and if not, wherein it is illegal ? "

And the said Committee of the whole Court ordered Copies of the former superintending Commission, dated the 15th Day of September 1769, and of the Opinions of the honourable Mr. York, and of the then Attorney General Sir William De Grey, on the Legality of that Commission, to be sent to the above Three Gentlemen.

And Your Committee find, That on the 14th of October, at a further Meeting of the Committee of the whole Court of Directors, a Motion was made, " That it is the Opinion of this Committee of the whole Court, That it will be highly for the Interest of the East India Company, that the Commissioners, now to be sent out with extraordinary Powers to India, should consist of Six Directors, to be chosen by Ballot out of the present Direction, and the Direction of last Year ; " the Debate on which Motion was adjourned to the 21st of the said Month ;—on which Day the said Debate was resumed ; and the Motion, on the Question being put thereon by the Ballot, passed in the Negative.

And the said Committee of the whole Court then entering upon the Consideration of the Persons proper to be nominated for the Execution of the said Commission to be sent from hence ; and the Chairman proposing Lieutenant General Robert Monckton to be One of the Commissioners ; and the Question being put, to proceed to the Election of the Candidates One by One by the Ballot, it passed in the Negative :—And the Committee, on a Motion, then agreed to adjourn to Friday next, and to submit to the Court of Directors then to proceed to the Choice of Six Commissioners agreed to be appointed herefrom Lists to be made out of the whole Number of Candidates, in the same Manner that Lists are annually formed of Candidates for the Direction.

And Your Committee find, That at a Court of Directors, on the 23d Day of the same Month of October, the Court entered upon the Consideration of the Choice

\* Your Committee thought it right to state this Amendment as it stands upon the Minute Book of the General Court—but upon Examination of Mr. Holt, the Assistant Secretary, the Intention of the Court appears to have been, that the Word " appoint " was to be left out, and the Word " recommend " inserted instead thereof.

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# R E P O R T

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO EXAMINE INTO

THE SEVERAL FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

RELATIVE TO

THE LATE OBSTRUCTIONS

TO THE

EXECUTION OF THE ORDERS OF THIS HOUSE.

Reported on the Thirtieth Day of *April*, 1771.

Together with an APPENDIX referred to in the said Report.





A

# R E P O R T

## FROM THE

# C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO EXAMINE INTO

The several FACTS and CIRCUMSTANCES relative to the late Obstructions to  
the Execution of the Orders of this House.

*The 30th of April, 1771.*

The Committee appointed to examine into the several Facts and Circumstances relative to the late Obstructions to the Execution of the Orders of this House, and to consider what further Proceedings may be requisite to enforce a due Obedience thereto, and to report their Proceedings, together with their Opinion, from Time to Time, to the House, have, in Obedience to the Order of the House, begun by examining into the Facts and Circumstances relating to the late Obstructions to the Orders of the House; and, in order thereto, called before them,

**W**ILLIAM WHITTAM, One of the Messengers attending this House; who said, "That he had had no other Warrant but that for taking *J. Miller* into Custody, on the Fifteenth of March One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-one: It was directed to Mr. *Bonfoy*, Mr. *Clementson*, and himself, with Orders to go and take *Miller* into Custody; and he proceeded, and came to *Miller's* House about Two o'Clock; and he asked if *Miller* was at Home, and was informed he was above Stairs, and would be down in a little Time; that he waited about a Quarter of an Hour, when *Miller* came down, and went into his Counting-house; that he (*Whittam*) followed him, and told him, he hoped he would not be surprized, that he had the Speaker's Warrant for taking him into Custody, and offered to shew the Warrant to him; and that he (*Miller*) just cast his Eye upon it, and said, that the Messenger had no Authority to take him, and he should take no Notice of it; whereupon he (the Messenger) laid his Hand upon *Miller's* Arm, and told him he was his Prisoner, and that he must go with him: *Miller* said, that he had assaulted him in his own House; and thereupon told one of the Persons present to go and fetch such a one, but does not remember the Name of the Constable, who came in a few Minutes, and *Miller* charged the Constable with him for the Assault,

and required the Constable to carry him before the Sitting Alderman; that as he (*Whittam*) was going into the Court where *Miller* lives, he saw a Man, whom he takes to be the Constable, come out of *Miller's* House, and go into a House near the Opening into the Court; and, by the Shortness of the Time, which was about Three or Four Minutes, he judged the Constable might come from that House; that the Constable came into the Counting-house, and *Miller* charged him to take the Messenger (*Whittam*) into Custody; the Constable charged all present to assist him, and the Messenger gave the like Charge to all present on his Behalf; that he is not sure the Constable laid his Hands on him; but, finding they were determined to arrest him, he made no Resistance; that he apprehends a Coach was ready by Order, as there was not Time to call one from the Stand: The Constable, and one *Clarke*, and *Miller*, and he (the Messenger) went into the Coach, which was ordered to drive to Guildhall, and did so.

That, when they arrived at Guildhall, they went up Stairs, and were informed that the Sitting Alderman was gone; that as soon as they arrived at Guildhall, *Clarke* went for Mr. *Clementson*; that he did not hear any one in particular directed to go to the Mansion House; but that several Persons followed *Miller* to Guildhall; and in about a Quarter of an Hour, Word was brought the Sitting Alderman was at the Mansion House; whereupon they went thither, and were taken into the Room where Business is usually done: They staid there about a Quarter of an Hour, when Word was brought, that he (*Miller*) could not be examined till Six o'Clock: — That he (*Whittam*) desired he might not be examined before Mr. *Clementson* came; that they staid a short Time, when a Gentleman came and desired *Miller* and him to follow him, who shewed them into a Room where People were dining; they dined, and then went into another Room, where he and *Miller* staid till they were called to the Lord Mayor, who was in his Parlor, where

"with Aldermen *Oliver* and *Wilkes*, and several other Persons; that he met Mr. *Clementson* as he was going into the Room to the Lord Mayor: The Lord Mayor began by asking *Miller* concerning his being taken into Custody by the Messenger, and *Miller* gave an Account of it; then the Lord Mayor asked him (the Messenger) By what Authority he took *Miller*? he answered, By the Authority of the Speaker's Warrant; which the Lord Mayor ordered him to produce; he did so, and was ordered by Mr. *Clementson* to read it, but not to deliver it out of his Hands, that as he was going to read it, the Lord Mayor said, he must have the Inspection of it, or no Notice could be taken of it; that he then delivered it to the Lord Mayor, upon his Promise it should be restored to him; that the Lord Mayor took and read it; and he or Mr. *Morris*, but rather thinks the latter, ordered a Copy to be taken of it, and a Copy was taken accordingly:—That the Lord Mayor asked him, If he had applied to any Civil Magistrate to back the Warrant, or whether he was a Peace-Officer? to both which he answered in the Negative:—The Lord Mayor then asked, By what Authority he could take a Citizen into Custody? That he (the Messenger) answered, By the Speaker's Warrant, which he thought sufficient; and the Lord Mayor then said, He had no Authority to take up any one in the City, without his or the Authority of some City Magistrate.

"Then Three Witnesses were sworn to the Facts which passed at *Miller's*; and that thereupon Mr. *Clementson* informed the Lord Mayor, that he was come by the Speaker's Order to demand the Messenger and his Prisoner: He does not recollect the Answer which was given to this Demand; but some Arguments passed, and Mr. *Morris* spoke a good deal:—Then the Lord Mayor said, that he (the Messenger) must be committed to the Compter, and *Miller* must be discharged; and ordered a *Mittimus* to be drawn, and that he saw the Lord Mayor sign it: That Mr. *Morris* then said, it would be proper that the other Two Aldermen should sign it, who did so, in the Presence of him the Messenger: The Lord Mayor then said, He did not desire them to be concerned, but would take it upon himself: That, before the Warrant was quite completed, the Lord Mayor or Mr. *Morris* said, there was Bail in the Room, if it was liked of; and one Mr. *Harford*, Mr. *Wilby*, and Mr. *Rentside* an Attorney, offered to be Bail: Before the Lord Mayor said I must give Bail; that he thanked them, but did not know whether he should have Occasion for it; and said that he never had applied to them for it.

"That he declined giving Bail, Mr. *Clementson* saying it was not proper; and the Warrant was signed and sealed: Mr. *Clementson* then said, that he was ready to give Bail; whereupon the Lord Mayor grew warm, and said he was trifled with; and that he then said, that he, or we, would not then take Bail, or Words to that Purpose; upon which there was some Noise and Clapping of Hands in the Room; and there followed some Discourse between the Lord Mayor, Mr. *Clementson*, and Mr. *Morris*; and he thinks, in Consequence, it was agreed to take Bail; and *Harford* and *Wilby* gave Bail, and Mr. *Clementson* agreed to it.

"That Mr. *Clementson* and he (the Messenger) were afterwards sent back from the Speaker's to the Mansion House, for a Copy of the Warrant of Commitment; and were returned it, being told, it was not to be found, but, if it should, they might have it in the Morning.—That he (the Messenger) went a Second and Third Time; and was told the last Time, he might have a Copy of the Recognizance a little before the Quarter Sessions, if he desired it; but that the Copy or the Warrant was of no Use after Bail was given."

The Committee then proceeded to examine Mr. *Clementson*, the Deputy Sergeant at Arms,—who said, "That he went to the Speaker's House on Friday the Fifteenth of March, to see if the Warrant was signed for taking *Miller* into Custody; that the Speaker's Secretary had prepared it, and the Speaker signed it, and delivered it to him (*Clementson*) who gave it to the Messenger, and told him, that if he found any Difficulty, to send for him, who should be at Home.—That he heard nothing more, till Half an Hour past Three o'Clock; then a Person came to him, and told him, he must come, for that the Messenger was taken up by a Constable, and charged with an Assault.—That he went to the Speaker's, and told him of it, who gave him Directions to go and demand the Messenger, and his Prisoner; and that if Bail was necessary, he must give it; but that he must see him committed first.—That he went first to Guildhall, about Five o'Clock, but found nobody there; and was told, he should hear of them at the Mansion House.—That he went there, and was introduced to the Lord Mayor, in his Bedchamber.—That he told the Lord Mayor, he understood, that the Messenger, to whom the Warrant was directed for apprehending *Miller*, was taken up by a Constable, and charged with an Assault; that he therefore desired to know, if the Messenger had been brought before him.—That the Lord Mayor said, he had been told, that a Person, who was called a Messenger of the House of Commons, had been brought there, and charged with an Assault.—That he (*Clementson*) waited in an Anti-room till Six o'Clock.—That the Messenger then came, and *Miller* and a Constable (*John Dewne*) and a large Concour of People.—Then they went in, to the Lord Mayor; Aldermen *Wilkes* and Alderman *Oliver* were there with him.—The Lord Mayor asked, What was the Purpose of their coming thither? *Miller* said, He charged *Whittam*, the Messenger, with an Assault: On this, Mr. *Robert Morris* appeared, and said, He was Counsel for *Miller* the Prosecutor.—He said, that *Miller* had been violently assaulted, and falsely imprisoned, by an illegal Warrant.—*Dewne*, the Constable (who was asked for by the Lord Mayor) said, *Miller* had applied to him, about One or Two o'Clock, and had complained of an Assault on him, in his own House, by the Messenger, and charged him to take the Messenger into Custody; he therefore took him into Custody, in order to carry him before a proper Magistrate.

"*Miller* was then called upon; who said, That a Person who called himself a Messenger of the House of Commons came to him, and took him into Custody, by Virtue of a pretended Warrant.—That *Miller* was then sworn by the Lord Mayor, and said upon his Oath, that what he had before said was true: He went on, and said, He had refused to go with the Person.—That the Person had used Violence, and had seized hold of him, and was pulling him along.—That the Lord Mayor asked the Messenger, what Offence *Miller* had committed, or what Authority he had for assaulting *Miller* in this Manner? The Messenger said, He had the Speaker's Warrant, directed to him, to take *Miller* into Custody: The Lord Mayor asked where the Warrant was? That he (*Clementson*) told *Whittam* to open it, and read it himself.—That the Lord Mayor or Mr. *Morris* (he can't say which) said it must be produced.—That he (*Clementson*) objected to it for some Time; but the Lord Mayor saying it could not be taken Notice of, if not produced, he delivered it to the Lord Mayor, on his promising to deliver it back to him; that he waited till this Time, to see the Nature of the Assault charged on *Whittam*; and finding that it was for executing the Warrant for taking *Miller* into Custody, he then told the Lord Mayor, that he appeared before him as Deputy Sergeant at Arms of the House of Commons; that he

came

"came there by the Speaker's Directions, and had his Commands to demand not only *Whittam* the Messenger, but likewise *Miller* his Prisoner; and he made that Demand in the most solemn Manner he was able.—That Mr. *Morris*, on this, desired he (*Clementson*) might be sworn as an Evidence.—But he (*Clementson*) declared he would not be sworn, and said, He did not come as an Evidence, but as an Officer of the House of Commons, to execute the Commands given him by the Speaker.—The Lord Mayor said.—He could not take Notice of any thing, in his Magisterial Capacity, that was not given upon Oath.—That he was then asked by *Morris*, If he refused to be examined to any of the Facts or Circumstances within his Knowledge?—That he doubted at first what Answer to give to that; but, on Recollection, he said, If there was the least Doubt either of the Warrant being signed by the Speaker, or of his (*Clementson*) having the Speaker's Commands to demand *Whittam* the Messenger and *Miller* his Prisoner, he was ready to be sworn to the Truth of those Matters, but would not be sworn generally.—Finding that to be his Resolution, Mr. *Morris* declined swearing him as to those Matters; but he (*Clementson*) again repeated, that if there was any Doubt as to those Matters, he was ready to swear to them.

"That the Lord Mayor asked *Whittam*, If he was a Peace Officer or a Constable? he said, He was not;—If he had applied to any City Magistrate to back his Warrant? he said, He had not:—Upon this, the Lord Mayor declared, That it was very extraordinary for any Citizen to be taken up in the City of London, without the Knowledge or Authority of the Lord Mayor, or some other Magistrate of the City; and that, if this was permitted to be the Case, it would be trampling on the Laws, and there would be an End of the Constitution of this Country.

"Then *Miller* was examined, as to his being a Liveryman of the City of London.—The Lord Mayor said, It was his Opinion, that no Warrant, but from him or some other Magistrate of the City, was good and valid to take up any Citizen; that he thought himself bound, to long as he held the great Office of Chief Magistrate of the City of London, to take Notice of a Proceeding of this Sort; and that it was his Duty to defend the Citizens, and their Rights and Liberties, to the last Extremity.—He said, He was of Opinion, the Messenger had no Right to take up *Miller*, who was a Citizen, not being charged with any Felony, Trespas, or Breach of the Peace.

"That Mr. *Morris* then took Four Objections to the Warrant:

"First, That the Words "House of Commons" was not a sufficient Description of the Power which had passed the Vote.—That it should have been, "the House of Commons in Parliament assembled."

"Secondly, That "J. Miller" was no sufficient Description of the Person.

"Thirdly, That the Offence was not inserted; and therefore that it was illegal, and without Colour of Law.

"Fourthly, That it did not appear, that "Fletcher Norton, Speaker," who signed the Warrant, was the Sir Fletcher Norton, who is Speaker of the House of Commons.

"That the Lord Mayor asked *Whittam*, Whether he intended to carry *Miller* away as his Prisoner? *Whittam* said, He did.—The Lord Mayor then said, He thought the Warrant was illegal, and therefore he discharged *Miller* out of the Custody of the Messenger; and said at the same Time, This Citizen comes here to claim a Citizen's Protection of me, and I think he is entitled to it.

"That then the Lord Mayor proceeded on the Assault.—*Miller* proved that *Whittam* had laid hold of his Arm and pulled him; and that about Five

Minutes afterwards the Constable came. After this,

Three Persons were produced to prove the Assault:—*Henry Page*, of *Newgate Street*, Printer.

*John Tapping*, of *The Old Bailey*, Printer.

*Robert Page*, of *Newgate Street*, Printer.

"They proved, That *Whittam* laid hold of *Miller's* Arm, and said, he was his Prisoner; and that *Miller* said, he should not go, or did not chuse to go. That *Whittam* said, You must go; and *Miller* said, he should not; and then *Whittam* charged every body present to assist him. After this, the Constable was brought; and the Constable charged all present to assist him.

"That the Lord Mayor, on this, gave it as his Opinion, that the Assault was fully proved; and that *Whittam* must give Security to appear at the next Session for the City of London, to answer such Indictments as should be then found against him for the Assault and false Imprisonment, to wit, in Forty Pounds, and Two Securities in Twenty Pounds each; and that *Miller* was to be bound to appear and make out the Charge.—Mr. *Morris*, and many others present, were ready to be Bail for *Whittam*: That *Whittam* was very much frightened, and was ready to offer Bail; but he (*Clementson*) insisted he should not give Bail.—The Lord Mayor desired it might be noticed, that Bail was offered, but not accepted by *Whittam*.

"Then the Lord Mayor directed a Warrant to be made out; and the Person who had these Directions he saw fill up what he supposed was the Warrant; and the Lord Mayor declared, it was a Warrant for committing *Whittam* to the Compter.—That he saw the Lord Mayor sign that Paper.—On this, Mr. *Morris* desired the other Two Aldermen might sign the Warrant, as well as his Lordship, else it might be supposed, that they did not concur in Opinion with his Lordship.—The Lord Mayor said, He did not desire any body else to sign it, though the Two Aldermen declared themselves ready to do it; and he particularly said to Alderman *Wilkes*, I think you have enough upon your Hands already.—The Warrant however was directed to be altered by the Clerk into the Plural Number; and he saw that Paper signed by the other Two Aldermen, *Wilkes* and *Oliver*.—That he asked the Lord Mayor if it was signed by them all; and he said, It was; and Directions were given by the Lord Mayor and Mr. *Wilkes* to the Constable, that he (*Whittam*) might be used kindly in Prison.—That just before they were going to take him away, he thought that, this being a Commitment, he had gone far enough; and then he offered Bail.—That the Lord Mayor grew warm at this, and said, That he found that this Proceeding meant to exaggerate the Offence, or Business, or the Proceeding; he could not recollect exactly the Word he made Use of.

"That, after this was done, he came back immediately to the Speaker; and upon his relating what had happened, he desired him to go back and try to get a Copy of the Warrant of Commitment.—The Lord Mayor said, He could not tell where to find it then, every body being gone away; but that if it was not destroyed, being now of no Use, he should have a Copy; but that I knew he had signed it alone first, and that afterwards Alderman *Wilkes* and Alderman *Oliver* desired to sign it too; and that he and Alderman *Oliver* should, in their Places in the House of Commons, admit their having signed such a Warrant; but that he should have a Copy of it in the Morning if it could be found.—That he applied again on Saturday Morning to the Lord Mayor for a Copy of the Warrant; he said, He could not yet find it; that some of them had taken it away, and he knew not where it was, but that, if it could be found, *Whittam* should have a Copy of it; that it did not signify, for that he did not mean to deny what had

been

"been done, or make Use of any Subterfuge; and that  
 "this was all that he (*Clementson*) had done.—  
 "That he did not go to execute the Warrant himself;  
 "and that it was not sealed.

And he further added this Circumstance, "That he  
 "recollects, When the Lord Mayor had signed the  
 "Mittimus, and he the Deputy Serjeant had offered  
 "Bail, the Lord Mayor grew warm, and made Use  
 "of some Expression, that he should not take Bail  
 "then, or Words to that Purpose; saying, That this Pro-  
 "ceeding meant to exaggerate the Offence, or Words  
 "to that Effect; but he soon afterwards said, he must  
 "take Bail.

"That he endeavoured to serve the Order of the  
 "Houfe on *J. Wbeble*; and went on *Thursday*  
 "the 28th *February*, to his (*Wbeble's*) Shop, and enquired  
 "for him, and the Servant said, he was not at Home,  
 "but would be in an Hour's Time; that he called  
 "again, and received the same Answer;—that he  
 "called again, and was answered by a Lad in the  
 "Shop, who said he was an Apprentice, That he was  
 "not at Home, being gone to the other End of the  
 "Town; and that his Master had waited all the Day  
 "before, expecting him.—That he (*Clementson*) then  
 "said, that he would call again in an Hour, and bid  
 "him tell his Master.---That he did so; and was  
 "told, he (*Wbeble*) had been in, and was gone out  
 "again; but if he would let him know where he  
 "(*Clementson*) might be found, he would wait on him.

—That he went to a Coffee-house, and waited; then  
 "called again, and was told, *Wbeble* was expected to  
 "Dinner at Three o'Clock.—That he called at Half  
 "an Hour past Three, and was told *Wbeble* was not  
 "at Home, but would be soon.—That he called again  
 "at Four and Five o'Clock, and received the same  
 "Answers.—That he left Word, he was the De-  
 "puty Serjeant at Arms, and would be there again at  
 "Half an Hour past Nine in the Morning; which he  
 "accordingly was, and was told by the same Person,  
 "that *Wbeble* was not at Home, but said, He had  
 "delivered the Message he had left with him, and that  
 "his Master said, He was very sorry he was obliged to  
 "go out, and he left no Word when he would be at  
 "Home.—That he called again at Eleven o'Clock,  
 "and he was not at Home; but was answered, he  
 "might be in, in Half an Hour.—That he went again  
 "on *Saturday* at Ten o'Clock, and the Apprentice said,  
 "he was not at Home, but would be in the Afternoon;  
 "and said it with a Smile, as if laughing at my fre-  
 "quent calling; and said, if he would leave Word  
 "where he might be found, we will send you Word  
 "when he is at Leisure.—That he (*Clementson*) said, he  
 "would be there at Seven o'Clock, which he accord-  
 "ingly was, but was told, he (*Wbeble*) was not at Home,  
 "and had sent for his Linen, and therefore was not  
 "expected till *Monday*.

"That he did not go to *Thompson* till *Friday* the Fifth  
 "of *March*, because there were Two *R. Thompsons*,  
 "one *Richard*, the other *Robert*.—That he found, at  
 "the Stamp Office, that *Thompson* had been summoned  
 "before the Commissioners to give Security, and said  
 "his Name was *Robert*.—That he sent a Messenger to  
 "enquire in the Neighbourhood, and found there was  
 "but One.—That he went to *Thompson's* House, and  
 "was told by a Man he was not at Home, nor could  
 "tell when he would be, or whether he was in Town;  
 "that he had seen him Two or Three Days before;  
 "that Nobody knew more about *Thompson* than himself,  
 "and if he (*Clementson*) would leave a Message, he would  
 "deliver it.—That *Williams* the Messenger then said,  
 "You know our Business; to which he made no An-  
 "swer:—That he went again at Eleven o'Clock; and  
 "the Servant said, *Thompson* was not at Home; for he  
 "had not seen him, and Nobody knew better than he;  
 "and said, that if he (*Clementson*) had Business with  
 "*Thompson*, it was usually left with him first, and that no

"Time was more likely to meet with him than that  
 "Day or To-morrow.

"That he (*Clementson*) went again on *Saturday*; and  
 "the same Person told him *Thompson* was not at Home,  
 "but would be in Half an Hour, but had no Reason  
 "for thinking so:—That he went twice afterwards,  
 "and he was not at Home, nor had been, and that  
 "he did not know when he would be:—That he (*Cle-  
 mentson*) said, Then he will not see me; and received  
 "for answer, he could not tell."

And he farther said, "That there had been One  
 "more Attempt since, to execute the Warrants on  
 "*Wbeble* and *Thompson*; that Mr. Speaker had made an  
 "Alteration in the Direction of the Warrants, by in-  
 "serting the Name of *Wood* the Messenger; that *Wood*  
 "took the Warrant, and he (*Clementson*) followed af-  
 "ter, to endeavour to find *Wbeble* and *Thompson*; that  
 "he (*Clementson*) waited at a Coffee-house in *Wbeble's*  
 "Neighbourhood; that *Wood* went and endeavoured to  
 "find them, but without Effect."

Your Committee then proceeded to examine *Charles  
 Williams*, the Messenger; who said, "he attended the  
 "Serjeant, in endeavouring to serve the Warrants on  
 "*Wbeble* and *Thompson*, on *Thursday* the Twenty-eighth  
 "Day of *February*:—That he went Six or Seven Times  
 "to *Wbeble's* House; that he did not find him at Home,  
 "but was told he would be at Home soon.

"That he went to *Thompson's* several Times, and  
 "received the same Sort of Answers; that the Business  
 "they came upon was known at both Places; and that  
 "he had read Mr. *Clementson's* Minutes at the Time,  
 "which he found were right."

The Committee then proceeded to examine *Guy  
 Wood*, the Messenger; who said, "He had the Speaker's  
 "Warrant, about the Tenth or Eleventh of *March*,  
 "to arrest *Thompson* and *Wbeble*; that he received it  
 "from the Deputy Serjeant; that his (*Wood's*) Name  
 "was inserted in the Warrant; that he went with one  
 "Mr. *Lee* to *Thompson's* House; that *Lee* went in and  
 "enquired for *Thompson*; that they had agreed, that,  
 "if *Lee* staid above a Minute, he (*Wood*) was to come  
 "in after him; but *Lee*, not finding him at Home,  
 "came out immediately.

"That they went from thence to *Wbeble's*, and pro-  
 "ceeded in the same Manner. *Lee* went in, and was  
 "told *Wbeble* was gone into the Country: They then  
 "went to the *Green Dragon* in *Fleet Street*, where  
 "*Wbeble's* Evening Papers are delivered, and staid  
 "some Time, to try if they could see him come after  
 "his Papers, or about his Business, but could see  
 "nothing of him: That they have made several En-  
 "quiries since, and can hear nothing of him."

Your Committee having thus stated the Evidence of  
 "the Facts and Circumstances relative to the late Ob-  
 "structions to the Execution of the Orders of this House,  
 "as it appeared before them, proceeded to the other Part  
 "of what was given them in Charge; namely, "To  
 "consider what further Proceedings may be requisite to  
 "enforce a due Obedience to the Orders of the House;"  
 "and, in order to form their Judgment upon that Mat-  
 "ter, they have made a diligent Search in the Journals,  
 "to see what the Proceedings of the House have been on  
 "similar Occasions; or, if no Cases strictly analogous  
 "should occur, at least to deduce, from the general Prac-  
 "tice of the House, such Principles of Parliamentary Law  
 "as might be applicable to the present Matter referred to  
 "their Consideration.

And in this Place the Committee beg Leave to ob-  
 "serve, that it appears to them that this House has, from  
 "the earliest Times, asserted and exercised the Power and  
 "Authority of summoning before them any Commoner,  
 "and of compelling his Attendance;—and that this Power  
 "and Authority has ever extended as well to the City of  
 "London, without Exception on Account of Charters from  
 "the Crown, or any Pretence of separate Jurisdiction (In-  
 "stances

(stances of which appear in the Cases referred to in the Margin) as to every other Part of the Realm.

*Forrester's Case*, in *Crompton*, Fo. 9 & 10.—*Stamman*, 6 E. VI. 1st vol. p. 18.—*Bagwell*, 2 and 3 P. and M. 1555.—*Nov.* 20, 1st vol. p. 44.—*Corbet*, 5 and 6 P. and M. 1557, *Nov.* 10, 1st vol. p. 51.—*Six Servants of Sir H. Jones*, 10 Feb. 1562, 1st vol. p. 65.—*Wm. Jones*, 29 Oct. 8 Eliz. 1566, 1st vol. p. 75.—*Sir J. Shirley*, March 22, 1608, 1st vol. p. 169.—*Steling*, 1666, vol. viii. p. 335.—4 June 1675, vol. ix. p. 354. " 'Tis not against the King's Dignity for the House of Commons to punish, by Imprisonment, a Commoner that is guilty of violating their Privileges, that being according to the known Laws and Custom of Parliament, and the Right of their Privileges, declared by the King's Royal Predecessors in former Parliaments, and by himself in this."—1 April 1697, vol. xi. p. 765, *John Salisbury*.—5 Jan. 1703, vol. xiv. p. 269, *Tutchin, Hew, and Bray*.—2 May 1721, vol. xix. p. 562, *Mist.*

In order to lay before the House the Result of their Enquiry with tolerable Brevity, and some Degree of Method, the Committee have reduced under Three General Heads the Obstructions which have been given at different Times to the Orders of the House, and under each of these Heads have ranged the different Modes in which these Breaches of Privileges and Contempts have been offered; and then submit to the Consideration of the House the several Methods of Proceeding which the House hath opposed to these Offences, the Proofs of which Proceedings appear by Cases referred to in the Margin of this Report.

The Three General Heads of Breaches of Privilege and Contempts of this House are, namely, those arising from,

First, Evasion.

Secondly, Force.

Thirdly, Colour of Law.

Offences under the First and Second of these Heads have been committed—by the absconding of the Parties summoned—by open Resistance to the Officers of the House—and by Riots and Tumults—by the Refusal of Civil Officers to assist the Sergeants or Messengers of this House, or to release Persons entitled to the Privilege of this House when detained in their Custody.

It appears also to Your Committee, as well from searching the Journals of this House, as from other authentic Evidence, that, in order to remedy the Abuses, and to remove the Obstructions above recited, this House has proceeded to support their Privileges, and to enforce the Execution of their Orders, by the following Methods; namely,

(1) *Sir Giles Mompesson*, 28 Feb. and 3 March 1620, vol. i. p. 537.—*Wildebank*, Dec. 10, 1640, vol. ii. p. 48.—*Sir Bagfil Brook*, April 24, 1641, vol. ii. p. 127.—*Sir John Lloyd*, &c. Jan. 8, 1680, vol. ix. p. 762.—*Brown*, Feb. 22, 1688, vol. x. p. 32.—*Sir Adam Blair*, June 15, 1689, vol. x. p. 182.—*Standish*, March 12, 1694, vol. xi. p. 266.—*Mackenzie*, vol. xi. p. 486.—*Grafamb*, Nov. 30, 1696, vol. xi. p. 602.—*Servant*, April 11, 1700, vol. xiii. p. 321.—*Tyffrey*, *Alley*, and *Weldon*, March 25 and 26, 1701, vol. xiii. p. 427, 436, 437.—*Colpeper* and others, March 28, April 2, 1702, vol. xiii. p. 826.—*Tutchin*, &c. Printers, Feb. 14, 1703, vol. xiv. p. 336.—*Rioters*, in *Sacchewell's Case*, March 24, 4th, and 6th, 1709, vol. xvi. p. 343, 346.—*Rebels*, 4 and 6 Feb.

And that the House have ever considered every Branch of the Civil Authority of this Government as bound (when required) to be aiding and assisting to carry into Execution the Warrants and Orders of this House.

1715, vol. xviii. p. 368.—*Wilkinson*, 9 June and 4 July 1721, vol. xix. p. 585.—*Leverland*, 6 March 1746, vol. xxv. p. 313.—*A. Murray*, 26 Nov. 1751, vol. xxvi. p. 309.—*Reynolds*, 11, 12, 15, 16, and 18th Feb. 1768, vol. xxxi. p. 603, 606, 610, 612, 618.

(2) *Harvey and Martin*, 22 April 1713, 17th vol. p. 298.—*Inglefield*, 29 Jan. 1725, 20th vol. p. 519.—*Phillips and Barnes*, 22 Jan. 1733, 22d vol. p. 210.—*A. Murray*, as above.

(3) *Rutcliffe*, 14 Nov. 1640, vol. ii. p. 29.—*Sir Bagfil Brook*, Jan. 11 and 25, 1641, vol. ii. p. 371.—*Nabbs* and *Tompson*, 21 Dec. 1660, vol. viii. p. 222.—*Dudley*, 24 Jan. 1670, vol. ix. p. 193.—*Topham*, 4 June 1675, P. M. vol. ix. p. 353.

(4) *Haffings and Crook*, 19 May 1675, vol. ix. p. 341.—*Topham*, as above.—*Hylster*, 7 April 1679, vol. ix. p. 387.—*Owen*, 28 March 1702, vol. xiii. p. 826.

(5) *Forrester*.—*Sir T. Shirley* and *Steling*, as above.

II. By renewing their Orders against such Persons, and committing them in a subsequent Session of Parliament (2).

III. By Orders to Mayors, Bailiffs, and Sheriffs, to assist the Sergeant or Messenger for the apprehending of such Persons; or to the Sergeant of this House, to call on the Sheriffs of *Middlesex*, and the Sheriffs of other Counties, and all other Magistrates and Persons, for their Assistance (3).

IV. By committing, for Breach of Privilege of this House, those Officers of the Peace who have refused their Assistance to the Sergeant of this House when so called on (4).

V. By imprisoning those who refused to release Persons entitled to the Privilege of this House, and by increasing the Severity of their Restraint, according to the Nature of the Offence, and in Consequence of the Contumacy of the Offender (5).

With regard to the Third Head—namely, Breaches of Privilege, and Contempts of this House, under Colour and Pretence of Law; it appears to Your Committee, that the same have been attempted, by discharging out of Custody Persons who have been committed by Order of the House:

By impleading, in the Courts of Justice, Persons intitled to the Privilege of this House, in the Cases there brought in Question.

By Prosecutions, before the said Courts, for Words or Actions spoken or done under the Protection of this House.

By Accusations, tending to call in Question, before the said Courts, Words or Actions so spoken or done, under false or pretended Denominations of Offences, not entitled to the Privilege of this House.

It appears also to Your Committee, in searching the Journals, that in the above recited Instances this House has proceeded,

(6) *Pemerton* and others, 2 Jan. 1675, vol. ix. p. 351.—*Duncomb*, March 22, 1697, vol. xii. p. 174; when the House Resolved, That no Person committed by this House can, during the same Session, be discharged by any other Authority whatsoever. *Charles Duncomb* having been committed by Order of this House, and afterwards discharged by the Order of the House of Lords, without the Consent of this House; it was Resolved, That the said *Charles Duncomb* be taken into the Custody of the Sergeant at Arms attending this House.

1st, By taking again into Custody Persons discharged without Order of the House (6).

(7) *Strickland*, 19 March 1605, vol. i. p. 287.—*Potts*, 2 Feb. 1606, vol. i. p. 331.—*Harrison*, 26 and 27 Feb. 1606, for Stay of Trial, as in other like Cases has been usual, vol. i. p. 148.  
 (8) Sir R. *Gargrave*, Sir W. *Angell*, *eadem die et loco*—*Band*, Feb. 28, 1606, vol. i. p. 345.—*Hyam*, 5 March 1606, vol. i. p. 349.—*Pouletts*, 5 May 1607, vol. i. p. 369.—*Bullingham*, 13 May 1607, vol. i. p. 373.—*Hewes*, 20 May 1607, vol. i. p. 375.—*Jalufan*, 10 June 1607, vol. i. p. 381.—*Stons*, 20 June 1607, vol. i. p. 386.—*Pelham*, 2 May 1610, vol. i. p. 423.—*Sanders*, 18 and 21 May 1610, vol. i. p. 429.—  
 “General Motion about Letters to be written to the Justices of Assize, referred to the Committee of Privileges, report this Resolution: Resolved, That the former Course of writing Letters to the Justices of Assize, according to Precedents; and, if requested, a Warrant for Inhibition to the Party,” 3 March 1620, vol. i. p. 537.—*Lord Bulstrey*, 28 April 1691, vol. x. p. 537.

(9) Sir Robert *Howard*, 17 Feb. 1625, vol. i. p. 820.—Sir *William Williams*, 7 Feb. 1688, vol. x. p. 21, 146, and 215.—*Halls* and others, 6 July 1641, vol. ii. p. 202 and 203.—*Jay* and *Topham*, 4 June 1689, vol. x. p. 64, 210, 213, & 227.—*Elford*, 13 and 14 April 1716, vol. xviii. p. 420; and on the 16 April the Clerk of the Peace was ordered to erase the Name at the Table.

(9) Cafe of the Five Members, 18 Jan. 1641, vol. ii. p. 377.—*Jay* and *Topham*, as above.

2dly, By directing Mr. Speaker to write Letters to the Justices of Assize, and other Judges, to stay Proceedings (7).

3dly, By Resolutions of this House, That the Suits and Actions commenced and carried on in these Cases should be discontinued and annulled, and should be deemed Violations of the Privileges of this House (8).

4thly, By committing those Judges who have proceeded to the Trial of, or pronounced Sentence upon, Persons entitled to the Privilege of this House, for Words or Actions spoken or done under the Protection of the Privilege of this House (9).

Your Committee have selected a few Cases, from among the many referred to in the Margin of this Report, which, from the Nature of their Circumstances, or the Importance of the Doctrine which they illustrate, or the Consequences which they produced, seemed to Your Committee fit to be more fully stated than the Margin would admit; and are therefore added as an Appendix to this Report.

Your Committee beg Leave to observe, that, in the diligent Search they have made in the Journals, they have not been able to find an Instance, that any Court or Magistrate has presumed to commit, during the Sitting of Parliament, an Officer of the House, for executing the Orders of the House.

They farther beg Leave to observe, that they have not been able to find, that there has ever been an Instance, wherein this House has suffered any Person, committed by Order of this House, to be discharged, during the same Session, by any other Authority whatsoever, without again committing such Person.

And therefore, with regard to *J. Miller*, who was delivered from the Custody of the Messenger by the Lord Mayor, who for the said Offence is now under the Censure of the House; as it appears to Your Committee, that it highly concerns the Dignity and Power of the House, to maintain its Authority in this Instance, by re-taking the said *J. Miller*—The Committee recommend to the Consideration of the House,

Whether it may not be expedient, that the House should order, That the said *J. Miller* be taken into the Custody of the Serjeant at Arms attending this House.

And that the Serjeant at Arms, his Deputy or Deputies, be strictly enjoined to call upon the Magistrates, Officers of the Peace, and other Persons, who, by the Terms of the Speaker's Warrant, are required to be aiding and assisting to him in the Execution thereof, for such Assistance as the said Serjeant, his Deputy or Deputies, shall find necessary to enable him or them to take into Custody the said *J. Miller*.

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# A P P E N D I X.

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*Crompton on Jurisdiction of Courts, Fo. 9, 10.*

“IN the 34th of Henry the VIIIth, one *George Ferrers*, a Burgess for the Town of *Phymouth*, was arrested in *London*, by a Process out of the King's Bench, at the Suit of one *White*, of which the House being informed, ordered the Serjeant to repair to *The Compter in Bread Street*, whither the said *Ferrers* was carried, and there to demand the Delivery of the Prisoner. The Serjeant went to *The Compter*, and declared to the Clerks there, what he had in Commandment; but the Clerks and other Officers of the City, after many high Words, forcibly resisted the Serjeant. Whereupon ensued a Fray, in which the Serjeant's Man was knocked down, and the Serjeant was driven to defend himself with his Mace of Arms. During this Fray, the Sheriffs of *London*, called *Rowland Hill* and *H. Sackley*, came thither, to whom the Serjeant complained of this Injury, and required of them the Delivery of the Prisoner; but they took Part with their Officers, and gave no Attention to his Complaint, and contemptuously refused to deliver the Prisoner. The Serjeant returned to the House, and made his Report of the above Transaction; who thereupon would sit no longer without their Burgesses, but rose and repaired to the Upper House, where the whole Case was declared by the Mouth of the Speaker, before the Lord Chancellor, and all the Lords and Judges there assembled, who, judging the Contempt to be very great, referred the Punishment thereof to the Order of the House of Commons; who, being returned to their House, ordered the Serjeant to repair immediately to the Sheriffs of *London*, and to require the Delivery of the Prisoner, without any Writ or Warrant, though the Lord Chancellor offered to grant a Writ, which the House of Commons refused, being clearly of Opinion, that all Commands, and other Acts proceeding from their House, were to be done and executed by their Serjeant, without Writ, only by Shew of his Mace, which was his Warrant.—The Sheriffs, upon this Second Demand, delivered the Prisoner; but the Serjeant, in Pursuance of his Orders, charged the said Sheriffs to appear before the House the following Day, by Eight of the Clock in the Morning, and to bring thither the Clerks of *The Compter*, and such other of their Officers as were Parties to the Fray.—The Serjeant had also Orders

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“to take into Custody the said *White*, who had procured the said Arrest, in Contempt of the Privilege of Parliament. The Sheriffs, on the next Day, with One of the Clerks of *The Compter*, who was the chief Occasion of the Fray, together with the said *White*, appeared before the House; where the Speaker charging them with their Contempt and Misdemeanor afore said, they were compelled to make immediate Answer, without being admitted to any Council, although Sir *Robert Cholmley*, then Recorder of *London*, and other the Counsel of the City there present, offered to speak in the Cause, which were all put to Silence, and none suffered to speak but the Parties themselves: Whereupon, in Conclusion, the said Sheriffs and *White* were committed to the Tower of *London*; and the said Clerk, who was the Occasion of the Fray, to a Place there called *Little Lyle*, and the Officers of *London* call *Taylor*, with Four other Officers, who had arrested *Ferrers*, were committed to *Newgate*.

“The King, being informed of this Proceeding, called before Him the Lord Chancellor of *England*, and the Judges, with the Speaker, and many others of the House of Commons, to whom He declared His Opinion to this Effect: He commended their Wisdom in maintaining the Privileges of their House; He, among other Things, further declared, That He was informed by His Judges, that He at no Time stood so highly in His Estate Royal, as in the Time of Parliament, when He as Head, and they as Members, are conjoined and knit together, into One Body Politic; so as whatsoever Offence or Injury, during that Time, is offered to the meanest Member of the House, is to be judged as done against His Royal Person, and the whole Court of Parliament; which Prerogative of the Court is so great (as His learned Counsel inform Him) that all Acts and Processes coming out of any other inferior Courts, must for the Time cease, and give Place to the highest.

“Whereupon Sir *Edward Montagu*, then Lord Chief Justice, declared his Opinion, confirming by divers Reasons what the King had said; which was assented to by all the rest, none speaking to the contrary.”

This Case is also referred to by Sir *Robert Atkyns*, in his Treatise on the Power, Jurisdiction, and Privilege of Parliament, and in *Dyer's Reports*.



# 10 1771. REPORT relating to the Obstructions to the

Sir Robert Howard's Case, 17 February, 1625.  
Vol. I. p. 820.

" Motion made, where Sir Robert Howard, during  
" Privilege of Parliament, was excommunicated for not  
" taking the Oath *ex Officio*.

" Resolved, upon Question, To refer this to the Exa-  
" mination of a Select Committee, Mr. Selden and  
" others.

" This Committee to take Consideration of the Re-  
" straint and Excommunication of Sir Robert Howard;  
" and to make then Report to the House of their Pro-  
" ceedings and Opinions therein," p. 821.

March 21, p. 839. " Mr. Selden reports from the  
" Committee, That Sir Robert stood privileged by the  
" House, when these Proceedings were had against him.  
" —That upon his Appearance before the Court, an  
" Oath was tendered him, to answer Things objected  
" against him; he answered, he was a Burgess of Parlia-  
" ment. They pressing him notwithstanding to answer,  
" they at length committed him close Prisoner to *The*  
" *Fleet*. Having laid Two Days, he petitioned the  
" Lord Keeper for a *Corpus cum Causa*; and upon Mr.  
" *Bembow's* Certificate that he was a Parliament Man,  
" the Lord Keeper enlarged him by the 10th of March.

—That Day the Court of High Commission pressed  
" him again to answer; he claimed the Privilege of  
" Parliament again; they (the Parliament approaching)  
" gave him Time of Deliberation. On the 15th of  
" March the Parliament sat and adjourned. On the  
" 17th of March they called him again; when he  
" brought them the Copy of the Indenture of Return  
" under *Bembow's* Hand, and the Copy of the *Habeas*  
" *Corpus* upon which he had been delivered. That, he  
" being again pressed to answer, and he claiming Privi-  
" lege as before, they, because he shewed no Record to  
" prove him a Parliament Man, pronounced him *Contu-  
" max*, and excommunicated him; ordering him further,  
" he should, before the 19th of March, attend One of  
" the Commissioners, and be bound in Three thousand  
" Pounds to appear the *Wednesday* after, and stand to  
" the Order of the Court.

" Resolved, upon Question, That Sir Robert Howard  
" ought to have had Privilege of Parliament, *Nem. Con.*

" Secondly, Resolved, upon Question, That Sir Ro-  
" bert Howard claimed his Privilege of Parliament in  
" due Manner, *Nem. Con.*

" Resolved, upon Question, That a Day be assigned  
" to the Members of our House, and those other which  
" are Commons, to answer in the House their Pro-  
" ceedings against Sir Robert Howard. —This to be  
" done upon *Friday* next, Nine o'Clock.

" Those of our own Members to be made acquainted  
" with the Day; for the other Commons, a Warrant  
" shall issue under Mr. Speaker's Hand, for their Ap-  
" pearance that Day."

3d May, p. 854. " Sir John Hayward called in  
" about Sir Robert Howard's Business, and interrogated  
" by Mr. Speaker, &c.

" Dr. Pope called in, and interrogated.

" Mr. Mettlesby, the Register, called in, and inter-  
" rogated.

" Upon Question, All the Proceedings in the High  
" Commission Court against Sir Robert Howard, from  
" the 1st of February, 22 James, at which Time he  
" ought to have had his Privilege of Parliament, de-  
" clared to be void, and ought to be vacated and  
" annihilated.

" Secondly, upon Question, Whether a Letter to be  
" written, by Mr. Speaker, to the Lord of Canterbury  
" and the rest of the Lords, and others of the High  
" Commissioners, for annulling of the said Proceedings?  
" the House divided. Carried for the Negative.

" Upon Question, Sir John Hayward, Dr. Pope, and  
" the Register, called in; and the Effect of the said

" Order declared to them by Mr. Speaker; and that  
" the House expected it to be done, and to hear by  
" Monday next that this be done; and in the meant  
" Time, the House will respite any Resolution concern-  
" ing themselves; and that they attend the House again  
" on Monday Morning: And the like Notice to be  
" given to Mr. Comptroller and Sir H. Martyn, by the  
" Sergeant: All which was done by Mr. Speaker ac-  
" cordingly."

10 June, p. 869. " Sir George More informeth the  
" House, That he was present at an High Commission  
" Court, where Seven Bishops present; and knoweth,  
" that then all the Proceedings against Sir Robert  
" Howard, from the 1st of February, 22 Jac. were frus-  
" trated and made void. And Sir H. Martyn affirmed,  
" that the Order of the House there read and allowed;  
" and all ordered to be done there accordingly.

" Tuesday next, for full Satisfaction to be given to  
" this House, of the Performance of the Order concern-  
" ing Sir R. Howard."

On the 15th June, the Parliament was dissolved.

1661, 18 December, Vol. VIII. p. 335. Case of  
Sterling.

" Upon Information given to this House, That  
" Alderman Sterling, One of the Sheriffs of  
" London, being served with an Order, signed by Mr.  
" Speaker, to discharge James Lyde, menial Servant to  
" Sir Henry Herbert (who was arrested and imprisoned  
" in *The Poultry Compter*) out of Prison, the said  
" Sheriff refused to obey the said Order, or discharge the  
" said Lyde; but put the Order up in his Pocket, and  
" said, he would answer it to the Speaker in the House.

" Resolved, That the said Sheriff Sterling be forthwith  
" this Morning sent for, in Custody of the Sergeant at  
" Arms, to this House, to answer his Misdemeanor and  
" Breach of Privilege."

Dec. 19. " Resolved, That Sheriff Sterling be called  
" to the Bar of this House; and shall, upon his Knees,  
" receive the Reprehension of Mr. Speaker, for his  
" Contempt and Breach of the Order of this House;  
" and that he be continued in the Custody of the Ser-  
" jeant at Arms, till he do cause Lyde, Servant to Sir  
" Henry Herbert, to be released out of Prison, without  
" any Fees or Charges.

" The Sheriff being called in, and kneeling at the  
" Bar, Mr. Speaker gave him a grave Reprehension;  
" and told him, That some Sheriffs of London, for a less  
" Offence, had been sent to *The Tower*; but, in regard  
" of his loyal Affections to His Majesty, the House  
" was pleased to remit his Offence, upon the Enlarge-  
" ment of the Prisoner: But that he should remain in  
" the Sergeant's Custody until the Prisoner was released,  
" as aforesaid."

4 June 1675, P. M. Vol. IX. p. 353. " Ordered, That  
" Mr. Speaker do issue out a Warrant to John Topham,  
" Esquire, Sergeant at Arms now attending this House,  
" to authorize and require him, that, if any Person or  
" Persons shall attempt or go about to arrest, imprison,  
" or detain, him from executing his Office, or from his  
" Attendance upon this House, to apprehend such  
" Persons, and bring them in Custody to answer their  
" Breach of Privilege; and to require and authorize all  
" Persons to be aiding and assisting to him therein."

4th June 1689, Vol. X. p. 164. " A Petition of  
" John Topham, Esquire, was read; setting forth, That  
" he, being a Sergeant at Arms, and attending the  
" House, in the Year 1679 and 1680, when several  
" Orders were made and directed to the Petitioner, for  
" the taking into his Custody the several Persons of Sir  
" Charles Neal, &c. &c. and others, for several Misdemeanors  
" by them committed, in Breach of the Privi-  
" lege

"lege of the House; and after that the Commons were dissolved, the said Persons, being resolved to ruin the Petitioner, did, in *Hilary* Term, the 23d or 24th of King *Charles*, sue the Petitioner in the King's Bench, in several Actions of Trespass, Battery, and false Imprisonment, for taking and detaining them as aforesaid: To which Actions the Petitioner pleaded to the Jurisdiction of the Court the said several Orders; but such his Plea was over-ruled; the then Judges ruling the Petitioner to plead in Chief, and thereupon he pleaded the Orders, in Bar to the Actions; notwithstanding which Plea and Orders, the then Judges gave Judgment against him, &c."

5th July, p. 209. "Colonel *Birch* reports from the Committee of Privileges and Elections, to whom the Petition of *J. Topham* was referred, &c."

"Whereupon the House Resolved, That this House doth agree with the Committee, That the Judgment given by the Court of King's Bench, in *Easter* Term, 34 Car. II. Regis, upon the Plea of *John Topham*, at the Suit of *John Jay*, to the Jurisdiction of that Court; and also the Judgments given against the said Mr. *Topham*, at the Suit of *Samuel Verdon*, &c. are illegal, and a Violation of the Privileges of Parliament, and pernicious to the Rights of Parliament."

"Ordered, That Sir *Francis Pemberton*, Sir *Thomas Jones*, and Sir *Francis Wythens*, do attend this House, on *Wednesday* Morning next."

19 July, p. 227. "Sir *Francis Pemberton* and Sir *Thomas Jones* attending, were called in; and having been heard in their Defence, were committed to the Sergeant at Arms, for their Breach of the Privileges of this House, by giving Judgment to over-rule the Plea to the Jurisdiction of the Court of King's Bench, in the Case between *Jay* and *Topham*."

The Case of Sir *William Williams*; against whom, after the Dissolution of the Parliament held at *Oxford*, an Information was brought, by the Attorney General, in the King's Bench, in *Trin.* Term, 36 Car. II. for a Misdemeanor, for having printed the Information against *Thomas Dangerfield*, which he had ordered to be printed, when he was Speaker, by Order of the House. Judgment passed against him on this Information in the Second Year of King *James* the Second. — This Proceeding the Convention Parliament deemed so great a Grievance, and so high an Infringement of the Rights of Parliament, that it appears to your Committee to be the principal, if not the sole, Object of the First Part of the Eighth Head of the Means used by King *James* to subvert the Laws and Liberties of this Kingdom, as set forth in the Declaration of the Two Houses; which will appear evident from the Account given in the Journal, 8th Feb. 1688, of the forming of that Declaration, the Eighth Head of which was at first conceived in these Words; *videlicet*, "By causing Informations to be brought and prosecuted in the Court of King's Bench, for Matters and Causes cognizable only in Parliament; and by divers other arbitrary and illegal Courses."

11 February 1688. "To this Article the Lords disagreed; and gave for a Reason, Because they do not fully apprehend what is meant by it, nor what Instances there have been of it; which therefore they desire may be explained, if the House shall think fit to insist further on it."

12 February 1688. "The House disagree with the Lords in their Amendment of leaving out the Eighth Article. But in respect of the Liberty given by the Lords in explaining that Matter;

"Resolved, That the Words do stand in this Manner:

"By Prosecutions in the Court of King's Bench for Matters and Causes cognizable only in Parliament, and by divers other arbitrary and illegal Courses."

By which Amendment, Your Committee observes, that the House adapted the Article more correctly to the Case they had in View; for the Information was filed in King *Charles* the Second's Time; but the Prosecution was carried on, and Judgment obtained, in the Second Year of King *James*.

That the Meaning of the House should be made more evident to the Lords; the House Ordered, "That Sir *William Williams* be added to the Managers of the Conference;" and Sir *William Williams* the same Day reports the Conference with the Lords; and "That their Lordships had adopted the Article in the Words as amended by the Commons." And corresponding to this Article of Grievance is the Addition of the Right of the Subject, in the Ninth Article of the Declaratory Part of the Bill of Rights; *videlicet*, "That the Freedom and Debates of Proceedings in Parliament ought not to be impeached or questioned in any Court or Place out of Parliament."

To which may be added, the latter Part of the Sixth Resolution of the Exceptions to be made in the Bill of Indemnity, Journal, Vol. X. p. 146, wherein, after reciting the Surrender of Charters, and the Violating the Rights and Freedoms of Elections, &c. it proceeds in these Words: "And the questioning the Proceedings of Parliament, out of Parliament, by Declarations, Informations, or otherwise, are Crimes for which some Persons may be justly excepted out of the Bill of Indemnity."

On the 11th of June 1689, p. 177. "The House Ordered, That the Records of the Court of King's Bench, relating to the Proceedings against *William Williams* Esquire, now Sir *William Williams*, Knight and Baronet, late Speaker of the House, be brought into this House, by the *Custos Breviarum* of the said Court, on *Thursday* Morning next."

On the 12th of July, p. 215. "The Record was read; and the House thereupon Resolved, That the Judgment given in the Court of King's Bench, in *Easter* Term, 2 Jac. II. against *William Williams*, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Commons, in the Parliament held at *Westminster*, 25 October 32 Car. II. for Matters done by Order of the House of Commons, and as Speaker thereof, is an illegal Judgment, and against the Freedom of Parliament."

"Resolved, That a Bill be brought in, to reverse the said Judgment."

This Bill was Twice read; but went no further in that Session.

1691, 28 April, Vol. X. p. 537. "A Complaint being made to the House, That *Sam. Hughes* and *William Phillips*, Esquires, *Walter Pemberton*, an Attorney at Law, and *Francis Mears*, had, by a Prosecution at Law, in the last Great Session for the County of *Pembroke*, endeavoured to turn *Richard Viscount Bulkeley* of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, a Member of this House, out of the Possession of Part of his Estate;

"Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. Speaker, &c."

"Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do write a Letter to the Prothonotary that he do not make out, and to the Sheriff of the County of *Pembroke* that he do not execute, any Writ, whereby the Lord *Bulkeley's* Possession may be disturbed, until Mr. Speaker shall have examined and reported the Matter to the House, and this House take further Order therein."

1716, April 13, 14, 16, Vol. XVIII. p. 420. "The House being acquainted that *Jonathan Elford*, Esquire, a Member of this House, has been summoned, by *John Metcalf* and *Alexander Ward*, Esquires, Two Justices of the Peace for the County of *Alidesejx*, to appear before them, to take the Oaths appointed by the late Act of Parliament; which Summons was delivered in at the Clerk's Table, and read:

"Ordered,

## 12 1771. REPORT relating to the Obstructions to the, &c.

" Ordered, That *John Metcalf* and *Alexander Ward*, Esquires, do attend this House To-morrow Morning."

*April 14.* " Were called in: They acknowledged they did issue a Warrant for *Mr. Elford* to come and take the Oaths; but that they did not know he was a Member of the House, until they had made a Return into the Quarter Sessions.

" Ordered, That the Clerk of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex* do attend, upon Monday Morning next, with the Return, &c.

*April 16.* " Ordered, *Nem. Con.* That the Deputy Clerk of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex* be called in, and, at the Table, erase the Name of *Jonathan Elford*, Esquire, a Member of this House, out of the Return made by *John Metcalf* and *Alexander Ward*, Esquires, Two of the Justices of the Peace for the said County, of such Persons as have been summoned by them to take the Oaths, and who have neglected and refused to do.

" And *Mr. Hardesty* was called in; and, at the Table, erased out the Name of *Jonathan Elford* accordingly."

*14 Nov. 1640*, 2 Vol. p. 29. " Ordered, That a Warrant shall issue, under Mr. Speaker's Hand, to all Mayors, Justices of Peace, Bailiffs, Sheriffs, Constables, and other His Majesty's Officers of this Kingdom, requiring them to be assiduous to the Bearer or Bearers of the Warrant of this House, for the bringing in safe Custody, Sir *G. Radcliffe* to this House, for the better and more effectual Execution of his or their said Warrant."

*January 11th 1641*, Vol. II. p. 371. " Ordered, That, in the Execution of the Warrant of this House for the apprehending of Sir *Bazil Brooke*, the Serjeant at Arms attending this House, his Deputy or Deputies, do require the Assistance of all Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Constables, and other Officers, for the apprehending of the said Sir *Bazil Brooke*; and to use all possible Diligence herein."

*21 December 1660*, Vol. VIII. p. 222. " This House having formerly issued an Order for the Serjeant at Arms, &c. to send for in Custody *William Nabbs*

and *Mr. Maurice Tompson*, for violating the Privilege of this House, in the Case of Sir *Francis Lowley*; and being informed that the said *Nabbs* withdraws himself; and that the Serjeant's Deputies, who had in Charge the Warrant as to *Mr. Tompson*, were denied Admittance to him; and that fighting and contemptuous Words were given touching the Warrant; the said Deputies were called in to the Bar of this House, and examined; *videlicet, Walter Curtis* and *Simon Lowen*.

" Resolved, That *Mr. Maurice Tompson* be sent for, in Custody, as a Delinquent; and that the Serjeant at Arms be empowered to break open *Mr. Tompson's* House in case of Resistance, and also to bring in Custody all such as shall make Opposition therein; and he is to call to his Assistance the Sheriff of *Middlesex*, and all other Officers as he shall see Cause, who are required to assist him accordingly."

*January 24, 1670*, Vol. IX. p. 193. " Information being given of a very high Contempt and Misdemeanor committed against the House, by assaulting and beating *George Dudley*, Deputy to the Serjeant at Arms, and relieving out of his Custody *Thomas Parsons*, &c.

" Which Misdemeanor and Rescue, the said *Dudley* did testify, was committed by *Mr. John Cox*, Under Sheriff of the County of *Gloucester*, and his Bailiff and others.

" Resolved, That the Serjeant at Arms attending this House, or such Deputy or Deputies as he shall appoint, do apprehend and take into Custody *Mr. John Cox*, Under Sheriff of the County of *Gloucester*, *William Forster*, &c. &c. &c.

" And the High Sheriff of the County of *Gloucester*, and other Officers concerned, are to be required, by Warrant from *Mr. Speaker*, to be aiding and assisting in the Execution of such Warrant."

*Vide also—Topham*, as before, June 4, 1675, P. M.

*26 February 1701*, Vol. XIII. p. 767. " Resolved, That to assert, the House of Commons have no Power of Commitment, but of their own Members, tends to the Subversion of the Constitution of the House of Commons."

A

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO CONSIDER HOW

H I S M A J E S T Y ' s N A V Y

MAY BE BETTER SUPPLIED WITH

T I M B E R.

Reported on the Sixth Day of *May* 1771.

Together with an APPENDIX thereunto.



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A

# R E P O R T

F R O M    T H E

# C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D   T O   C O N S I D E R   H O W

His MAJESTY'S Navy may be better supplied with TIMBER.

*The 6th May 1771.*

The Committee who were appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber have, pursuant to the Order of the House, considered the Matter to them referred, and have agreed upon the following Report :

**W**HEN Your Committee proceeded to the Execution of the Enquiry ordered by the House, they immediately found the Necessity of directing that Enquiry to certain Points ; First, the State of Timber fit for the Supply of His Majesty's Navy, its Sufficiency or Insufficiency for that Purpose ; Secondly, in Case of Insufficiency, to what Causes it might be imputed ; Thirdly, its Operation on the Prices ; Fourthly, the Means of further Supply at Home, and by Importation ; and under this Head, naturally come the Nature and Quality of the different Sorts of Timber. Your Committee prosecuted their Inquiry as far as the great Extent of it would permit them, but they fear very short of what the Importance of the Matter requires ; and report to the House such Information as they have at this Time been able to obtain, distributed under those Heads, as far as the Nature of each Evidence will permit.

And First, as to the Sufficiency or Insufficiency of the Supply, Your Committee thought it necessary to

examine *John Williams*, Esquire, Surveyor, *Hugh Palliser*, Esquire, Comptroller, and *Timothy Brett*, Esquire, another Commissioner of His Majesty's Navy : And they informed Your Committee, that there was a great Scarcity of Timber for Ship-building in *England* ; and that, for the better Supply of Timber and Plank for the Use of His Majesty's Navy, it had been found necessary to apply to Foreign Countries : That the Timber chiefly imported, was of a large Scantling, Compass Timber, for Knees, and other Purposes : That the *New Forest*, and the Forest of *Dean*, are the only King's Forests which yield any considerable Supply for the Use of His Majesty's Navy ; the first to *Portsmouth*, the other to *Plymouth* : That of 6,000 Loads worked up every Year at *Portsmouth*, the *New Forest* sends no more than 870 Loads of Oak, and 100 Beach Trees ; and of 5,000 Loads worked up at *Plymouth* every Year, the Forest of *Dean* sends no more than 5 or 600 Loads : That some Years ago there was an Order for felling Trees in the Forest of *Sherwood* ; but they were found to have stood so long, and were so red, that it was thought fit not to have any more of them : That, from the Information they have received from their Purveyors and the Timber Merchants, they are of Opinion, that there is not a sufficient Quantity of Timber in *England* to be purchased at any Price ; and all their Purveyors and Timber

Merchants

Merchants agree, that the large Timber near the Sea Coast, that is to say, within such a Distance that the Land and Water Carriage does not exceed 38 s. a Load, is nearly exhausted.

That, notwithstanding their Application to all the Timber Merchants in England, to know what they could be supplied with, they have received Answers from very few: One of them says, that he has a Parcel of Timber ordered him, but that he will not engage for it unless he is allowed an additional Land Carriage of 40 Miles. That the Stock of Timber in the King's Yards has been lessening for these Eight or Nine Years past, so that though they used to keep Three Years Stock beforehand, they have not now enough for the Service of the current Year, and no Appearance of procuring it; but that the Purveyors had not been able to purvey the Kingdom all over, so as to know with Certainty what Quantity there is in the Kingdom.

And Your Committee being desirous of informing themselves, what Quantity of Timber and Plank was used in the Navy Annually, what Stock of Timber was remaining in the King's Yards for Ship-building and Repairs, and what Stock would be necessary to be kept up, called for Accounts thereof; which are hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3.

As to the Causes of the Insufficiency of the Supply, they informed Your Committee, that the Scarcity of Timber is occasioned, partly by building such a large Number of *East India* Ships, partly by the general Increase of Shipping, and in a considerable Degree by the Augmentation of the King's Ships, in their Number, their Size, and their Scantlings; that in the Year 1740 the Navy was greatly increased in Number and Size; that a great Number were built in the King's Yards, and also by Contract in the Merchants Yards; and in 1745, the several Classes in the Navy were greatly increased by a new Establishment in building Ships for the Navy; and that at the Opening of the War in 1755 the Number and Size still increased; in 1756 the Size of the Ships were very considerably increased; inasmuch that Seventy Gun Ships, which formerly were about 1,300 Ton, now are increased to 74 Guns and 1,600 Ton; that during the last War there were 50 or 60 Ships of the Line built, the least of them carrying 60 Guns; and upon the Conclusion of the War, the Ships that the War began with, were most of them in Want of Re-building, or a thorough Repair, except those that were built during the War; and that the Consumption of Timber since 1762, in building and repairing Ships, has been as great as would have built 60 Ships of the Line; and that in Fact, since the Year 1762, 34 Ships of the Line have been actually built and launched.

That there has been a great Increase of Shipping in general; and Ships of all Dimensions interfere with the King's Ships of the like Dimensions, and the Price has been raised in Proportion upon all Timber; but the Increase has particularly been in the *East India* Company's Ships, which from 30 Sail, their Number 30 Years ago, are now 90 Sail, one of which Ships of 800 Ton would take the Line Scantling as a Ship of War of 50 or 60 Guns: That within these 20 Years the *East India* Company have greatly increased the Tonnage of their Ships; for that in 1751 there was a Regulation that the Ships they would employ should be 106 Feet Keel and 33 Feet broad: Under these Regulations it was not enjoined that they should use any Four-Inch Plank; and that, by another Regulation in 1770, their Ships are to be 110 Feet Keel and 35 or 36 Feet broad, and that all the Planking of their Bottoms shall be Four-Inch; that by these last Contracts they run from 800 to 1,000 Tons, which interfere with Ships of War from 50 to 74 Guns; which is become so alarming, that it makes the Navy Board uneasy, and apprehensive that the Difficulty of getting Timber will be still greater; that, in Consequence of this Increase in the Size of the *East*

*India* Ships, the Price of Timber is principally affected at *Deptford*, *Woolwich*, and *Chatham*, the *East India* Ships being built in that Neighbourhood; and, in some Degree, *Portsmouth* is likewise affected, it being necessary to send Timber from thence to *Woolwich* and *Deptford*: That *Portsmouth* and *Plymouth* have further Advantages over the other Dock-yards, in Point of Situation, for Supply, not only from the King's Forests, but from several Counties more productive of Timber.

Your Committee then called for the several Accounts following; *viz.* An Account of the principal Dimensions and Scantlings of the Frame Beams, Knees, and Thick Stuff sided and moulded, used in the building a Ship of each Class in the Royal Navy, from 100 Guns to Frigates of 28 Guns, inclusive; a List of all the *English*-built Ships in the Service of the Company of Merchants trading to the *East Indies* on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1770, specifying the Names and actual Tonnage of each, and the Years in which they were respectively built; List of all the Ships and Vessels which constitute the *East India* Company's Marine Force in the *East Indies*, specifying the Name, Complement of Europeans and of Natives, and the Number and Calibre of Cannon in each; List of the Number of *European*-built Ships in the Service of the *East India* Company each Year, from 1740 until the present Time; and Copies of such Resolutions of the *East India* Company as have been made to regulate the Tonnage and Dimensions of the *European*-built Ships in their Service, from the Year 1751, when the First Regulations were made by the Court of Directors relating thereto, to the present Time; which are hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

And, in order to find out what Operation the increased Demand of Timber has had upon the Price, Your Committee again examined Mr. Williams, Mr. Palfrey, and Mr. Brett; who said, That the Prices of Timber differ according to the Dimensions, the large being double the Value of the small; on a Medium is 41. 5s. a Load on Timber of 100 Feet Meetings, but on a long Carriage may be found to be 81. a Load; that the Price of Timber has increased 25 per Cent. from the Year 1737 to the present Time, and all Scantling in Proportion; that the late Rise has been only in the Allowance for the additional Carriage, except Oak Plank, which has increased in Price 10s. a Load.

Your Committee then called for an Account of the Contract Prices for Timber and Plank, paid by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy, since the Year 1737; distinguishing each Year; which is hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 9.

As to the Expedients for removing the present Scarcity and procuring a sufficient Supply, the said Messieurs Williams, Palfrey, and Brett, informed Your Committee, that one Expedient for supplying the Deficiency of Timber would be the Introduction of Foreign Timber in a larger Quantity than at present; and that the Navy Board are now actually treating for it from *Hamburg*, *Stetin*, *Holland*, and *America*, and particularly for a certain Kind of Live Oak, for Knees, from *Carolina*; but this last in very small Quantities, by Way of Specimen only: Another Expedient the Board has used, has been, by advancing the Price of Carriage, to enable the Merchants to bring it from the Inland Parts of the Country; upon which Plan, within these Six Months, £. 3,200 has been paid to one Timber Merchant for extra Carriage of 3,588 Loads of Timber, and that there are further Sums due for extra Carriage, but the Board has not yet received the Accounts; that the Board is of Opinion, that the Price of extra Carriage will not always bear the same Proportion to the Quantity of Timber, and are taking Measures to reduce, in some Degree, the Cost of that extra Carriage, it being so high that the Carriage came to more than the Value of the Timber; and accordingly have wrote to the Timber Merchants in the different Parts of the Kingdom, to inform them, that they are ready to receive Proposals:

for serving in Timber, at an increased Carriage, from the Inland Parts; that the Commissioners, upon finding the Scarcity of Timber, have tried to enlarge their Supplies from Abroad, by endeavouring to purchase in certain Foreign Countries, from which they had not been used to receive any Supplies before; and Offers have been made from *Sweden*; but the Person who had undertaken to bring the Supply did not perform it; that they have had some Timber and a great deal of Plank from *Silesia*, by Way of *Stetin*; that they had about 1,000 Load from *Holland* last Year, and are now under Contract for 1,000 Load more of Plank from *Silesia* for this Year; but that the Foreign Timber is inferior in Quality to the *English*, and will turn out dearer (Duty included) than their standing Contract Price; that with respect to the *American* Timber, the Board has attempted to get some Cedar and Mahogany Beams from the *Masquito* Shore, but the Undertaker failed in the Attempt; that they have likewise imported Plank from *Syebet*, some of which was good in its Quality, but its Durability cannot be ascertained, as it has been used only Two Years, and it is supposed it would answer the Purpose of, and comes cheaper than, the *Dantzick* Plank, and upon that Presumption the Commissioners had engaged for 1,000 Load more, but this Undertaker likewise failed in his Attempt; and that they have had small Parcels of Plank from *New York*, but it has been found very bad in its Quality.

That in the Course of the last War, the Navy have used Fir in the Construction of Ships of 28 Guns, by Way of Experiment, and in order to gain Time; but they do not think it answers, on Account of its Want of Durability; and likewise is more expensive, as the Merchants will not undertake to build a Fir Ship at the same Price they will an Oak Ship.

That the Commissioners of the Navy have a Promise from the Treasury of the Pre-emption of the King's Timber in all His Forests; and have had Supplies from several Forests, but in no considerable Quantity from any but the Forest of *Dean* and *New Forest*.

And being asked, whether, in their Opinion, it would be practicable, in the Course of this Year, to survey the principal Woodlands of this Country, so as to enable them, from the actual Knowledge and Information of their Officers, to lay before Parliament, early next Session, an Estimate of all the standing Timber belonging to the Crown, and that belonging to private Persons, with the Degrees of its Vicinity to the nearest Water Carriage?

They said, that as to the King's Woods, they know not the Bounds of the Forests, nor the Woods in them; therefore they have no Means of making such an Enquiry: And as to private Property, they have no Power; that they did make an Attempt the Beginning of last War, but were interrupted by the Proprietors before they got through the Second County.

That the Navy Board; in their ordinary Contracts, have Timber delivered at the usual Prices, free of all Charges; but in the Contract for Inland Timber, in order to enlarge the Supplies, an Allowance is made where the Carriage is understood to amount to more than the Sum at which it is usually estimated; that this Sum is 38s. per Load; and where the real Carriage is found to exceed this Sum, the extraordinary Carriage, whatever it may amount to, is allowed, upon producing proper Vouchers.

That the Contractors had alleged, that they could not get Timber so near to the Sea Coast, but that the Expence of Carriage would exceed their usual Computation of 38s. a Load; therefore, upon Application made by the Timber Merchants to the Navy Board, that the Price of Timber was too low, they thought proper to give an Encouragement, by an Allowance for a long Carriage after the Rate of 1s. per Load per Mile, rather than raise the Price of Timber, and thus enable the Merchant to bring it from the interior Parts of the

Kingdom; but that has been paid only to One Timber Merchant: The others not having complied in Time with the Conditions of their Contracts, no Bills were made out to them, and they now desire a longer Time; and that Mode being thought erroneous, it is now discontinued, and the real extra Carriage paid for.

And being asked, how long it had been the Practice to purchase Foreign Timber?

They said, that from Plank it had been practised several Years, and some Timber, which last has increased gradually; and there is now Twenty Times the Quantity of Timber purchased that was Five Years ago; but that the Quantity Five Years ago was very small: That they have preferred the Use of Foreign Plank, in order to save the Growth of *English* Oak; but that has greatly diminished within these Five Years, which is owing to the Contractors failing to fulfil their Contracts, though the Price has been greater than it was before.

Being asked as to the Quality of Foreign Wood in all Respects? They said, that the Plank was very good for Ships Bottoms under Water, and on the Flats of the Decks, though not so durable as *English* Oak; that Foreign Oak and Thick Stuff is now intended to be used in the Repairs of the King's Ships, on Account of the Scarcity of Timber of *English* Growth; but as it is of late only that Foreign Timber has been used, its Durability or Usefulness cannot be ascertained; that some Experience has been had of the Durability of the Thick Stuff in the Prize Ships taken last War, but of what Country Growth that Oak might be they could not say; that they have observed, upon a Survey taken of those Ships, that Oak wrought in the Thick Stuff and Frame was not so good and lasting as that of *English* Growth, as has been proved by the frequent sudden Repairs required of them; that as to the Prices of Foreign Timber, they said, that Plank is dearer than *English*, Thick Stuff pretty near the same, and the Timber uncertain; but none of it so durable as *English*; that the Navy has hitherto used very little Foreign Timber, except *Dantzick* Plank, which is chiefly used for Ships Bottoms; but that Supply having been diverted by the Troubles in *Poland*, they have lately made an Agreement for Plank from *Silesia*, which, with the *Dantzick*, is used for Ships Bottoms; and amounts to 1,300 Loads a Year.

Being examined as to the Prices paid for Timber from the Forest; they said, that when felled and squared it stands in 38s. a Load; that as to what is brought from the *New Forest* to *Portsmouth Yard*, all the Charges of felling and Expences of removing amount to about 36s. a Load more; at the Forest of *Dean*, the Charges and Expences amount to about £. 2. 12s. 6d. and in Case of a War there is an additional Price of 5s.: That as to the Qualities of *English* Oak Timber, it varies according to the Soil it grows upon, the Timber coming from the interior Parts not being so good as that in the Sea Coast Counties; that a sandy Soil produces an inferior Sort of Timber to a Clay Soil, it being generally shakier, and not so tough or durable as that which grows upon a Clay Soil; that they had always received that Sort of Timber in the King's Yards, as they refuse none from any Soil, provided it be perfect in its Nature, and not shakier; and in that Case it is equally good, and applicable to any Parts of the Ship for immediate Use, but certainly not so durable: That there is no certain Rule by which the Age of Timber may be ascertained when it comes into the King's Yards, but judge it fit from 80 to 100 Years Growth, which it is necessary it should be, particularly upon Account of the Size: That, previous to paying for the Timber that is served into the King's Yards, the proper Officer surveys it, and searches out the Defects; and, if any appear, an Abatement is made from the Quantity, to reduce it to the Standard Price of Goodness; the Abatement being made upon the Quantity of Timber to be certified for, in Favour



of the Contractor, in order to avoid an Alteration in the Contract Price. And they delivered in to Your Committee an Account of the Time necessary or expedient, in the Opinion of the Surveyor of the Navy, for sawing Timber before it is built with, and when in the Frame; which is hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 10.

And they said, that there was not sufficient Room in the Dock Yards for stowing and seasoning the Timber, which suffers much by being heaped one Piece upon another, exposed to Sun and Rain; but that sufficient Room might be had, if wanted; that the Timber generally lies about Six Months after it is fided, sometimes ficked, and sometimes the Sides in Contact with each other; that, indeed, upon the great Consumption of Timber of late Years, such Pieces as have thus lain in the Manner complained of, did not lie so on Account of the Quantity, but were mostly such as were fit for particular Purposes, and lay by till there was a Call for them, as they were not proper to be converted to other Uses.

Your Committee thought it necessary, in the next Place, to examine some Ship-builders, and thereupon ordered several of the most considerable to attend. And Mr. William Wells said, that there is a great Scarcity of Timber in the Kingdom, particularly in the Counties of *Suffex, Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, and Kent*; from whence they had been used to draw their Supplies; and which Counties are now almost drained; that there is now greater Difficulty in getting large Timber than in getting small, which was not the Case formerly.

And being examined as to the Causes of that Scarcity, he said, that one Cause arose from the Conversion of Wood Land into Arable, which was the Case very much in the County of *Suffex*; that the other Causes are, the Increase of the Royal Navy, and of the general Trade of the Kingdom, and particularly of the Trade of the *East India* Company, their Ships having increased in Number, Size, and Scantlings, and that they have now 91 Ships in that Service; that, by the last Order of the Company's Committee for Shipping, their Ships are to be 110 Feet Keel, and 35 or 36 Feet Broad; that he has formerly built *East India* Ships of 600, 500, and some of 400 Tons, but that he has built one of 864 Tons; and a considerable Part of the Timber and Beams in that Ship would be fit for a Fifty or Sixty-Gun Ship, and a great deal for a Seventy-four-Gun Ship, which he knows by Experience, having built Ships of War which carried 74 Guns; that of the Timber used in *East India* Ships of 700 Tons, a considerable Part would be fit for Ships of War of 50 Guns, but most of it for Frigates; and that which is used in *East India* Ships of 600 Tons, would be fit only for Frigates; and he gave it as his Opinion, that if the *East India* Company were allowed to build all their Ships upon the large Scantlings, and particularly with Four-Inch Plank in their Bottoms (which is now used for Ships of War of 50 Guns and upwards) it would be very hurtful to the Navy.

And he observed, that the *East India* Ships were allowed to go but 4 Voyages, which are performed on an Average in 12 Years; consequently all the 91 Ships are rebuilt within the Term of 12 Years; that, on breaking up the *East India* Ships, very little of their Timber is made Use of in Ship-building; but in Navigation, at the End of the 4 Voyages, about 12 out of the 91 may find Employment as Store-Ships and Mast-Ships in Time of Peace, and in Time of War double that Number: And he produced to Your Committee an Account of Scantling of Timbers, &c. of sundry Ships built for the *East India* Company by himself and Partner, which is hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 11.

And being examined as to the increased Price of Timber, he said, that within these 20 Years the Price of Timber at the *London* Market is raised from £. 3 to £. 4. 10s. and £. 5 a Load, for what runs from 60 to

100 Feet Meetings; from 45s. to £. 3. 15s. for what runs from 35 to 60 Feet Meetings; and that the Price of *Dantzick* Plank is increased from £. 6. 5s. to £. 10. 10s. a Load.

That he had made no Attempt to get any Supply of Timber from the Inland Parts, nor from *America*, or any Foreign Country, except Plank from *Dantzick*.

That if the Ships in the Service of the *East India* Company were to be again fitted out the Year of their Return, they would probably go more Voyages, and thereby a great deal of Timber would be saved; and that if both the Navy and *East India* Company were to make use of Elm and Beach Plank from the High Water Mark downwards, it would be a great Saving of *English* Oak, be as durable, and answer the same Purpose as well; and that the Navy has made Use of such Plank with good Success; but that Fir Plank would not answer.

Mr. *Perry* (another considerable Ship-builder) confirmed Mr. Wells's Evidence, except as to the Rise in the Price of Timber within these 20 Years past; which Rise, he said, is not more than 20s. or 25s. a Load, on Timber of 60 Feet Meetings and upwards; nor more than 15s. or 20s. a Load, on Timber from 40 to 60 Feet Meetings.

That with respect to the *East India* Company, he said, that as neither he nor his Father had built for that Service any Ship larger than 723 Ton, he could give no Account of the comparative Size of any larger Ships for the Navy or the Company: And he produced to Your Committee, a Paper containing the Dimensions and Scantlings of several *East India* Ships built by himself and Company at *Blackwall*, which is hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 12.

And he further said, That neither he nor his Father had built, for the Service of the *East India* Company, any smaller Ships than those of 544 Tons; and that he wishes no larger had been built at all, as this Practice distresses the Ship-builder in his Trade, not only by rendering it more difficult to get Timber, but by raising the Price of it, and enhancing the Expence of Workmanship in the Mode of constructing these Ships beyond what the advanced Price paid for them will return to the Builder; and that a Ship of 800 Tons will take more Timber, and cost more in Workmanship, than Two Ships of 400 Tons each.

Mr. *Randall* (another considerable Ship-builder) agreed with Mr. Wells, except that some Parts of the *East India* Company's Ships, when they are broke up, may be used in repairing Ships; for that he, in particular, had used the Knees, Standards, and Beams, in repairing *West India* Ships; that the large Timbers are generally reduced, and a smaller Ship would yield more Timber for the Purpose of refitting and repairing others than a larger Ship, because more applicable to the general Size of Ships, without Alteration, and at less Expence; that upon Conversion of great Timber no great Quantity would be wasted or thrown away, if it were not to be used in building small Ships, because the Surplus Timber might be worked up in repairing the old Ships; that in the common Run of Trade, Ships will last more than 12 Years; and that he has known *East India* Ships, remaining out more Time in their Voyages, last 16 Years.

That he remembers several old Men of War broke up about 43 Years ago; and the Plank without Board under Water was of Beach, and a great deal of it in very good Order.

That the largest Ship he ever built, or is now building, for the *East India* Company, is One of 864 Tons; and the smallest, which was in the Year 1743, about 620 Tons: And he delivered in to Your Committee a Proposal for Scantling, and also another for the Preferential of Timber, accompanied with Proposals of Dimensions and Scantling for a Ship of 600 Tons; which are hereto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 13 and 14.

Mr. *Dudman* (another considerable Ship-builder, and also a Dealer in Timber) agreed with Mr. *Wells*, Mr. *Perry*, and Mr. *Randall*, except where Mr. *Perry* differs from Mr. *Wells*; and said, that the *Royal William* Ship of War has now Beach in her Bottom 5 or 6 Strikes from the Garboard-strike, which has been there 52 Years, and on Examination last *February* was found to be very good; that he has built Ships for the *East India* Company about 9 Years, and that the largest Ship he ever built for them was of 864 Tons, the smallest of 702 Tons: And he delivered in to Your Committee a Paper containing Proposals for Scantlings; which is hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 15.

Being then examined as to the State of the Timber in the Inland Parts of the Kingdom; he said, That he finds that there are in the Counties of *Herefordshire*, *Gloucestershire*, *Monmouthshire*, *Worcestershire*, and *Shropshire*, great Quantities of large Timber fit for the Use of Government, and from whence the Navy might be plentifully and well supplied, if they would pay the additional Charge of Carriage: That he has bought 3,000 very large Trees in *Herefordshire*, of about 80 Feet Meetings; the Charge of Carriage upon which to *PLYMOUTH* is £. 2. 8 s. per Load, and if sent into the River *Thames* 12 s. more, but only 6 s. Addition from *Plymouth* to *Portsmouth*.

And Messieurs *Wells*, *Perry*, and *Randall* said, that they are merely Ship Builders; that they never buy Timber from the Stem, but are supplied from the Timber Merchants; and they, together with Mr. *Dudman*, agreed that they have used Elm, but not Beach, in the Bottoms of Ships, the Surveyors of the *East India* Company having refused to have Beach made Use of.

In the next Place, Your Committee examined Mr. *Henry Mills*, a considerable Timber Merchant; who said, That, beyond all Doubt, there was a Scarcity of Timber for the Purposes of the Navy; that in *Suffex*, *Kent*, *Surrey*, *Berkshire*, Part of *Hampshire*, *Essex*, *Suffolk*, and Part of *Norfolk*, it had been almost all cut down within these 30 Years, particularly in *Suffex*, *Kent*, and *Surrey*; that in those Three Counties he knew only Two Estates on which there was any considerable Quantity fit for immediate Use; that he does not very well know what Quantity of Timber there may be on the Estates of private Persons in *Hampshire*; that he knows of but One Estate in *Essex* on which there is much Timber fit for the Use of the Navy, and on that Estate there is a great Quantity; in all those Counties some, but in small Quantities; that he did not know more than Two Estates in *Suffolk* which had any great Quantity, nor more than One in *Norfolk*, and in all the rest of that County there was very little; that he knows not One Estate in *Berkshire* on which the Quantity was considerable; that there was none in *Oxfordshire*, very little in *Northamptonshire*, except in the King's Forests, and even there the Quantity was not considerable; but what was there was very fit for the Use of the Navy, and about 14 or 15 Miles from Water Carriage.

That, though he had not carefully examined *Gloucestershire*, he knows enough of the County to say, that there is not much Timber there in the Hands of private Persons.

And he assigned, as One Cause of the Scarcity of Timber, the improper Manner of cutting down, at every fresh Fall of Coppices, the Tillers which were left at the preceding Fall, and ought to be permitted to grow up to Timber.

As another Cause of that Scarcity is the Conversion of great Quantities of Timber, fit for Ships of the Line or Battle, into Calks and Coopers Ware, in *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Herefordshire*, and particularly in the last; that small Timber would not be fit for those Purposes, but Timber might be had from Abroad which would answer as well as *English* Oak.

As another Cause, he said, was the Forges, which

are destructive to the Growth of Timber, though he does not know that any useful Timber has been cut down to supply such Forges, except in *Monmouthshire*, where they cut down and use their young Tillers for that Purpose.

As another Cause, is the increased Tonnage of Ships; because, if smaller Ships were built, a great Quantity of small Timber might be worked up in them, which never comes to such a Size as to be fit for large Ships.

That as to the Advance in the Price of Timber, he said, That since the Year 1753, there had been none to the Commissioners of the Navy, except in Plank, which last Year was rose 10 s. per Load; but that there had been a considerable Rise in the Price of all Timber in the Merchants Yards, and still in a greater Proportion on large Timber for the Construction of *Line of Battle* Ships; and that the Reason why the Price is not in like Manner advanced upon Timber, sold to the Commissioners of the Navy, is, because they have agreed to make an Allowance for the increased Carriage, which the Merchants pay for in the general Price.

That though there is little Timber in the King's Forests in *Northamptonshire*, what there is there, is very fit for the Navy; and that there is a great deal in the *New Forest*: That in the Woods of *Suffex*, *Surrey*, and *Kent*, there are large Quantities growing, which will necessarily come forward, some in every Year, not much at first, but a great Quantity in 40 or 50 Years; that within these 20 or 30 Years more Care has been taken than formerly; and that there are as many Trees now growing there as were 100 Years ago, fewer in Hedges, but more in Coppices; and much more Land, very fit for the Growth of Timber, has been turned to that Purpose.

And he gave Your Committee an Account of the Timber in the Forest of *Dean*, as it was found upon a Survey taken in the Year 1764; which was afterwards confirmed to Your Committee by *John Pitt*, Esquire, Surveyor General of His Majesty's Woods, and is hereafter stated, with the rest of his Evidence, in this Report.

And Mr. *Mills* said, That though much Timber has been cut down in *Dean Forest* since that Time, the remaining Timber has so improved, that he makes no Doubt, but there are now as many Loads there as there were when that Survey was taken; and is now capable of great Improvement; for there are several Parts of the Forest, upon which there is no Timber now growing, that formerly were great Quantities; and he called the Forest of *Dean*, the Garden of the World.

That the Time he supposes the Timber is growing in the Forest of *Dean* is, as in most other Places, about 120 or 130 Years; that the Soil is a strong Clay, and very good for Timber; that there are now some Inclosures, and more are going to be made; but he fears they will have little Effect, unless the Deer are destroyed; that there are Rights of Common and Pannage, which are very destructive to the Timber, particularly the Right of Pannage; and that he had seen 3,000 Hogs there at a Time: That the Destruction of the Goats, which is very much practised there, in order to increase the Pasture for the Maintenance of the Colliers and Cottagers *Horses*, is very detrimental to the Growth and Preservation of young Trees; that he does not believe there is any Abuse of Consequence there, in regard to the Cutting of Dotard Trees, which are not so called on Account of their Age, but from various Accidents, and are very good for House Building; and many of them are sent to *Bristol* and other Ports for building Small Craft: That there is a good deal of Timber in *Herefordshire*, much more than in the Maritime Counties.

That he thinks, that the King's Forests, and perhaps the Forest of *Dean* and the *New Forest* alone (improved according to his Idea) might be brought to supply Timber for Half the Consumption in Line-of-Battle Ships; that

the Maritime Counties will still supply some Timber for the Navy in every Year; but no great Quantity for 30 or 40 Years to come, and then a very great Quantity; and that he is rather inclined to think, there would be Timber enough (taking one Year with another) for the Use of the whole Navy till 120 Years from the present Time.

That he thinks the Land Owner would find his Advantage in letting his Timber grow till it is fit for the Use of the Navy, and in letting the Tillers grow; which Improving in Timbers will make ample Amends for the Loss of Underwood: And he has found, by Experience, that in cutting Coppices, the best Way is to cut down the small Timber with the large; for the small Trees left in Coppices will not grow to be large Trees, when those which were large are removed.

That as to Foreign Timber, he said, That so much as had come under his Knowledge, had not been equal to the *Englyb*; but that the nearest to it, was the Timber and Plank which comes from *Dantzick*.

For the further Information of Your Committee, Mr. *Mills* laid before them, a Copy of a Letter which he had wrote to the Commissioners of the Navy, together with another Copy of a Letter referred to in the first-mentioned Letter.

The first-mentioned Letter, dated *January 27 1770*, is to the following Purport: That he could not think any Method more effectual for improving the Growth of Timber, than, in the first Place, to have all such Parts of every Waste in His Majesty's several Forests, as are proper for Timber, duly fenced in, so as to be sufficiently secured against the Deer or Cattle of any Kind; and then to be planted with Acorns, intermixed with other Seeds of quicker Growth, such as Beechmast, Ashkeys, Hazelnuts, and the like, whereby the first Shootings from the Acorns will be protected from the Weather, and by this Method the Inclosure will soon become a Wood or Coppice; and then, as soon as the Coppice is grown to a Size to make small Faggots, such as are used in Lime Kilns, which in common is at 8 or 9 Years Growth, the Whole should be cut down, except the Saplings or Tillers sprung from the Acorns; these should be most carefully left. The Time of Year for cutting the Coppice should be *November, December, or January*; then, in the Spring, the Tillers should be carefully viewed, and a proper Number of such of them as shall appear in the least thriving Condition should be marked out for cutting away, a Part of which only should be cut away immediately; and the rest in the Spring following; neither should too many be marked for cutting away in the Whole: That in the right Management of the Coppice, lies the chief Skill in the raising of Timber. The Number of Tillers ought to be diminished, that what are left may have more Room to grow and extend themselves; if too many are cut at a Time, those which remain will be so much opened to the Weather and Wind, as to cause them to run up small, and so weak, as even to bend under their own Weight; but if the Number taken away be judiciously chosen, and removed gradually, the Tillers will grow up stout and strong. After the Second Spring, in which the Cutting of Tillers marked out before is finished, the Coppice should be left to grow up again till it is become fit to cut a Second Time, which will be in about Ten or Twelve Years; and then the Coppice Wood should be cut down again, with the same Caution as before in preserving the Oak Tillers, and in the thinning their Number afterwards, that what are left standing may have still more Room to spread themselves in: And this Management of the Coppice should be observed, as often as the Underwood is cut, till no more of the Tillers or young Oaks are left than what are reserved to grow up to Timber. This, in his Opinion, should not be more than Fifty or Sixty on each Acre of Land. And were every Nobleman and Gentleman, possessed

of Land proper for the Growth of Timber, to pursue the same Method, he is greatly inclined to think, that within 120 or 130 Years (Care being taken to preserve the young Timber now growing, of which in many Parts of the Kingdom there is a great Quantity) there would be more than would be wanted for the Supply of the Navy, and Trade of *England*: And he is inclined to think that His Majesty's Forest of *Dean* alone, thus improved, from the Observations he has made respecting the Growth of the Timber, with the Quantity of Timber Trees now growing thereon, would supply nearly, if not Half, the Demand for His Majesty's Yard at *Phymouth*: And he sent them, inclosed, a Letter which he received from a Friend in *Suffex*, in order to illustrate what he had been recommending, by the Examples of the Success that Gentleman had had in pursuing the like Method; and also because it contained some further Particulars, which otherwise he intended himself to have enlarged upon.

The second-mentioned Letter, dated *Lodsworth, 13th January 1770*, is to the following Purport: That he is fully persuaded, that if every Proprietor and Owner of Timber Lands would but take the same Care to cultivate and improve the Growth of Timber, that he has taken for 45 Years past; in a Century, *England* would be capable of growing Timber faster than there would be a Demand for it: That there is not any Place that he has cut Timber from, which is not much fuller now, and more regularly planted, than ever it was before: But, as the Affair is now managed, there is scarce One Land-owner in a very great Number that takes proper Care to cultivate and improve the Growth of Timber; and a great Number of those that do, cut it down before it is useful in any Part of the Navy: That the grand Enemy of all the Growth and Produce of Timber is the Cattle of all Kinds, when, through Neglect to fence and inclose the Woods, the Cattle are permitted to go and feed on those Lands from whence the old Timber was cut, and eat up all the young Plants and Produce; that the common Tenants and Occupiers of Timber Lands hate to see a Tree grow and flourish; and that if Numbers of Estates in the proper Timber Lands were properly inclosed, and never let to a Farmer, nor cultivated for Corn or Grass, the Produce and Growth of Timber would in a proper Time produce to the Landlord or Owner of the said Lands, more real Profit than ever they will receive from such Tenants: That another very great Discouragement and Hindrance to the Growth of Timber arises from the Timber not being freed on the several Copyhold Estates of this Kingdom; where the Copyhold Tenants, and Owners of those Copyhold Premises, in general, take Care to destroy the Tillers, and to save and preserve very few of them; as it is for the Lord and not for themselves, and the Drip and Shade of the Trees does their Corn and Grass much Damage; therefore, if the Lords of Manors would, for a valuable Consideration, be prevailed upon to free the Timber on those Premises, it would afford a very great Encouragement to the Copyhold Tenants in general, to train up and encourage the Growth of Timber, as they themselves would enjoy the Benefit of it; and it would tend to a very great Increase of Timber. As for the Inclosing of Waste or Common Lands, to raise Timber thereon, he was afraid it would be remedying one Evil, and bring on a greater; for, if it were possible to inclose our Commons and Waste Lands, it would very greatly reduce and hinder the Breed of Cattle of all Kinds, cause a great Scarcity of Provisions of Meat of all Kinds, and reduce and lower the Rents of Abundance of Estates: Besides, he was of Opinion there are Lands enough already inclosed, if they were properly managed and conducted, which would produce more Timber *ad infinitum* than would be wanted; and that, if the Royal Forests were well inclosed and properly managed, it would in reasonable Time cause a very great Increase

**Increase of Timber.** What he was then advancing was from his own Experience; that his Father purchased Two little Estates in the Year 1695, the Land and Timber together cost £. 560, the Timber was then valued at £. 200 only; that he had cut already so much as, with what he intended to cut this Spring, would amount to more than £. 2,000; and then the Remainder left on the Lands will be worth more than the original Purchase of both Land and Timber: That, when he purchased *Roundbursh* Estate, in the Year 1741, the whole of the Timber on the Estate at that Time was valued by the Vender at £. 500 only, and he had cut £. 1,000 worth off from that Estate since he purchased it, and he thought there were 20,000 Trees now on the Estate, worth 5s. each. And as a plain Instance that no Time ought to be lost in training up and preserving of Timber, when he purchased *Woodbursh* Estate in 1736, Mrs. *Capron*, of whom he purchased it, acquainted him that she had forbid the Tenants cutting the Underwood then growing on a little Piece of Coppice Ground, about Two Acres of which in his Time was a very good Furz Field; and when he cut the Underwood, in the Winter 1736, there was a plentiful Crop of fine Oak Tillers growing amongst the Underwood; but, as it was a poor, sandy, dry Piece of Land, he thought Oak Timber would not grow thereon, and therefore ordered them to be all cut down, except Two, which he left by Way of Experiment; in the next Eleven or Twelve Years, these Two Tillers girt more than Six Inches Square without the Kind, Four Feet above the Stem; that Winter he cut the Underwoods again, and had a very plentiful Crop of fine Oak Tillers again; that the Two Tillers which he saved Eleven or Twelve Years before, are now more than 5s. each better than the new Crop; that he computes there are 300 Standard Tillers on the Coppice, which, at 5s. each, is £. 75 lost to him by cutting down the first Crop: That his late Father-in-law, in the Year 1727, sold as much Timber from a Piece of Coppice Ground at *Hartbursh*, containing Five Acres and a Quarter, and Thirty-eight Perch, as amounted to £. 660; only a few Trees more might be added to them, but he believes there were as many left standing on the Coppice; and in the Year 1735, the Writer of this Letter sold from another Coppice near adjoining, being about the same Quantity of Land, as much Timber as he computed sold for £. 500; that if both these Coppices were turned into Underwood, or converted into Arable Land, they would not both be worth £. 5 per Annum; but the Tillers which he has trained upon those Two Coppices, when they shall be large enough to convert into full Three and Four-Inch Plank, will bring upon their Sale more than £. 2,000: That, in the Year 1736, he purchased a little Estate adjoining to *Hartbursh*; the Timber and Tillers were viewed, and valued at £. 100 only; since that Time, he has cut from it very little less than £. 200 worth, and thinks the Timber and Tillers now upon it worth £. 200 more: That the best Method to train up young Timber is, where the old Timber will admit of it in Coppices, to cut all down clean as you can, and as soon as possible to get the Ground quite cleared, and the next Winter following cause those Lands to be well and sufficiently fenced, to prevent any Cattle of any Kind from going or feeding in them; and so soon as the Underwoods are grown large enough to make a common Bavin, or Limekiln Faggot, which may be Eight or Ten Years at most, then leave all the Tillers standing; and at the First Spring of the Year after, let the worst of the Tillers be marked out moderately, and then the next Spring after, let more be marked to be cut down, and to continue after every Cutting of Underwoods for Four or Five Cuttings, which will be Forty or Fifty Years; for if the Wood is thinned too much the First Spring after taking away the Underwood, the Tillers will be too much exposed to the Cold, and their Growth will be checked: On the

other Hand, if the Underwood is permitted to grow too long whilst the Tillers are small, they will be drawn up too long and too slender, and never grow stout and strong afterwards: By cutting the Underwoods small, the First Time especially, and also the Second Time, the Tillers will grow very stout and strong, if the Lands are kind for Timber, and Care taken to keep all Cattle out: That there is not One Place where he has cut Timber, which is not now fuller than it was before; that the great and common Objection that is generally made against saving and training up of Timber, is its being a long Time in growing up; but he thinks, if properly managed, it is not long: That he computes, that he has cut from the *Hartbursh* Estate, from 1720 to 1736, about £. 4,000 worth of Timber; and Two Years ago, from that Estate and some others, almost £. 500 worth more; and he ventures to say, that those Estates were never so well planted with Timber as they now are; that he saved a Tiller just below his House, at *Michaelmas* 1737, very dear then at 6d. and now it is very cheap at 40s.

Your Committee then thought proper to examine some Merchants, Importers of Timber; and

Mr. *Solly* said, that he had been almost 20 Years in the Dantzick Trade, and Imports from thence Four and Three-Inch Plank for Ship-building, but no other Sort of Timber; the Four-Inch Plank is 36 Feet long, and the Three-Inch Plank about 32; but by reason of the Troubles in *Poland*, the Import of Plank from *Dantzick* has considerably decreased; that he had formerly imported 1,500 Load a Year for the Use of the Navy; but that last Year he imported only 800 or 1,000 Loads; and the Commissioners of the Navy would have taken more if he could have got it; and that his Correspondent informs him, that Timber grows scarcer in *Poland*, and is not to be had but by teaching it farther from the River.

With respect to the increased Price of Timber, he said, that the last Price he paid for Plank was £. 8. 5s. per Load; the preceding Year, and 3 or 4 Years before that, it was no more than £. 7. 17s. 6d.; that 10 Years ago he thinks it was £. 7. 10s.; and from thence to 20 Years back, it was from £. 7. 5s. to £. 7. 10s. per Load.

That, if the Troubles in *Poland* should cease, *Dantzick* Plank would come in greater Quantities; that it is as good as *English*, and applicable to the same Purposes; that he has imported Fir Plank from *Dantzick*, called *Prussian* Deals, for Shipping, Two-Inch Thick, from 30 to 36 Feet long, and at the Rate of 9s. apiece from 5 to 10,000 in a Year, for the Use of the Navy, and more than Double that Quantity for private Trade.

That, upon the Import from *Dantzick* falling short, he tried at *Hamburg* and *Holland*, and found that the best Plank from thence would come dearer than from *Dantzick*; and he said, that all Kinds of Goods may be imported from this Country into *Poland*, and the Duties on them are very easy; and that the Trade between that Country and this is in Favour of *Great Britain*. And

Mr. *Jesper Laurence Richter* said, that he imports Timber from *Prussia*, *Hamburg*, and the East Country; that he used to import little else than Staves from *Stein*; but last Year he imported, for the Use of the Navy, 7 or 800 Load of Plank of the same Sort with *Dantzick*, and some Thick Stuff, and is now under Contract for 1,200 Loads more of Plank, of Three, Four, and Four-and-half-Inch Thick; that he has likewise, by the Encouragement of the Navy Board, imported some pretty large Compass Timber, fit for Ships from 60 to 80 Guns, and intends this Year to import more, and of the same Size; that both the Timber and Plank are young and good, not inferior to what comes from *Dantzick*, but he supposes not so durable

as the *English*; that he found at first some Difficulty in getting his Orders executed, not on Account of the Quantity, but in the Conversion of the Timber; that he doubts not but he could supply the Navy with 2 or 3,000 Loads of Timber, and as many of Plank, in every Year, on proper Notice; that he could bring some of the same Quality from *Hamburg*, being the Growth of the *Hanoverian* Dominions, the Dutchy of *Holstein*, and several Parts of *Prussia*; and from *Holland*, being the Growth of the *Rhine*; but he believes it would be at a higher Price than what comes from *Stetin*.

That the Price for Plank is £. 7. 10 s. per Load, and for Knives £. 7. 15 s. delivered at the King's Yards free of all Charges. Then

Mr. *Hagen*, another Merchant Importer, being examined, confirmed the Evidence of Mr. *Solly* and Mr. *Rubier*; and added, that the Supply of Timber and Plank from the Northern Parts of *Europe* is, a little from the *Weser*, but mostly from the *Rhine*, the *Elbe*, the *Oder*, and the *Vistula*, from which Rivers an ample Supply of all Species of Timber and Plank may be had; and that he finds no Difficulty in having his Orders executed there to any Extent; that with respect to the Quality of the Timber from those Places, he said, he thinks that which comes down the *Rhine* to *Rotterdam* and *Dort* is preferable to that which comes from any of the other Places; that what comes down the *Elbe* to *Hamburg* is mostly *Bohemian* Timber, and but indifferent; that which comes down the *Warer* and the *Oder*, from *Brandenburg* to *Stetin*, is inferior to that which comes down the *Vistula* to *Dantzick*; and that what comes down the *Weser* is very indifferent, being mostly sandy, that is to say, what grew on a sandy Soil, and not fit for Ship-building; but he said, that in *Brandenburg* there was good Oak growing in a sandy Soil.

That at *Dantzick*, they have a Method of bracking their Timber; that is to say, a public Officer examines its Quality, its Dimensions, and its Defects, sorts it, and stamps with the Crown that which is perfect; and that the Timber or Plank thus stamped is called "Dantzick Crown Timber," has no Veins, no Defects, and is very little inferior to what comes down the *Rhine*; and that no other Sort of Timber is imported from thence for the Use of the Navy.

That, in this Regulation, which is introducing itself at *Stetin*, was established there and at *Hamburg*, the best Timber at those Places, thus ascertained, would be very little inferior to the best at *Dantzick*.

And he informed Your Committee, that the Price of *Dantzick* Timber has increased gradually about 30 per Cent. within these 15 or 20 Years; which he accounted for by saying, that their Wood Lands are converted into Arable, so that the Timber is now brought from a greater Distance, and the Price of Labour is increased there; and that he apprehends that there is the same Advance in Price at the other Markets, but is not sure whether within the same Time.

That he has imported Oak from every Province in *North America*, and also a great deal of *American Fir*, but that in general it has not the Strength of the *Baltic Fir*; that the Oak which comes from the Provinces South of *New York* is not fit for the Navy; which he said was not owing to their Want of Size, but being deficient in their Quality; and he observed, that in *New York* there are many Kinds of Oak, and some of them as good as the *Dantzick* or the *German*, but not so good as the *English*; that there is also some good Timber in *Nova Scotia*, but that the best comes from *Quebec*; and that throughout *America* there are various Species of Oak, the relative Goodness of which is not yet ascertained; but that in the Northern Provinces it is harder, whiter, and more durable, than in the Southern.

And he said, that there is One general Misfortune,

which attends the Importation of Timber from every Part of *America*, which is, that it is not forced there, but sent over good and bad together; whereas if the *Dantzick* Regulation was established there, and the Timber bracked and sorted, there might come from thence a great Supply of good Timber.

That Contracts have been made for delivering Oak Plank from *America* into the King's Yards, at the Rate of £. 7. 5 s. per Load; but that Timber for Shipping might be imported from *New York* and *Nova Scotia* for £. 4. or £. 4. 10 s. a Load; and he said, that in the Years 1768 and 1769, he imported from *Quebec* 150 Loads of squared Strait Timber, the Side of the Square from 15 Inches to 2 Feet, and sent it to One of the King's Yards; that about 50 Loads of it were picked out for the Use of the Navy, and he was paid £. 5. 10 s. a Load for it.

And Mr. *John Bernard* (a Ship-Builder and Timber-Merchant, and who had built in the late War several Ships for the Navy, and is now under Contract for building more) informed Your Committee, that he knew from his own Examination and Experience, that the Timber in *England* fit for the Navy is nearly exhausted; that in the County of *Suffolk*, there is not more than Half the Quantity remaining which there was 50 Years ago; and in the Counties of *Essex*, *Norfolk*, and *Lincoln*, not more than One Third; and that there is likewise a great Diminution in *Yorkshire*, but he could not say to what Degree; that he has been told by other Merchants who dealt there, that though they used formerly to buy 6 or 700 Loads a Year, they could not now get 40 in the same Time; that all the said Counties used to furnish a considerable Quantity of Timber; and that he has been over all of them except *Yorkshire*, and over only a Part of that County, and fees very little Succession of young Timber in any of them.

And being asked, To what Cause he imputed the Scarcity of Timber? he said, To the vast Quantity cut down for Ship-building, some for private Trade, but principally for the Navy, and to the Neglect of Planting; and that he has himself, in his own Yards, consumed 20,000 Loads of Timber.

That, with respect to the increased Price of Timber, he said, that in some Parts of his Dealings, *videlicet*, in *Yorkshire*, *Nottinghamshire*, *Leicestershire*, and *Norfolk*, the Price has not been advanced to him within these 12 Years; before that Time, he bought Timber at 10 or 12 s. a Load cheaper than his present Price; but that in his Dealings in *Suffolk* and *Essex* the Price is more advanced to him, he being now obliged to give £. 4 for what 20 Years ago he used to purchase for 55 s.; that he purchases the Timber standing; and, paying the Price he mentions for the Timber, has to his own Profit the Top, the Lop, and the Bark; that he estimates the Load at 40 Feet Girt, or round Measure, which will turn out about 60 Feet squared, according to the Rules in the King's Yards.

And being desired to inform Your Committee in what Proportion the Price of Timber for small Ships had increased, to that of large; he said, that small Timber, such as is put into a Ship of 32 Guns, or of less Size, is to be obtained easier and cheaper than Timber for larger Ships; for that the Price of Timber at 30 Feet Meetings has not rose so much as the Price of Timber at 100 Feet Meetings; but that there is little Difference in the Rise of the Price on Timber from 40 to 60 Feet Meetings, and on what runs from 60 to 100 Feet Meetings: That, in the last War, the Contract Price for a Thirty-two-Gun Ship was £. 9. 15 s. per Ton, but is now £. 11. 11 s.; and that of a Seventy-four-Gun Ship £. 16. 5 s. but is now £. 16. 17 s. 6 d.

And he said, that he is at this Time under Contract for building Three Ships of War, *videlicet*, One of 32 Guns, One of 50, and One of 74; that he was at first unwilling to undertake the Contract, being apprehensive

hensive of the Scarcity of large Timber; but that since he engaged in it, he has had Recourse to Places where he never before had any Dealings, and finds himself sufficiently supplied with Timber, which will be laid into his Yard, according to his Calculation, at £. 3. 10 s. per Load.

That about 6 or 7 Years ago, he was upon a Commission for inquiring what Timber could be had for the Navy from the Forest of *Sherwood*, which is about 14 Miles from the *Trent*; that most of the Timber there was found to be very old; that the Purveyor and himself marked 330 Trees, which they supposed fit for the Navy; but on felling 100 of them, upon Examination by the Purveyor, there were only Three sent to the Dock-yard, and which, on a Survey there, were condemned; but, notwithstanding which Circumstance, he is of Opinion, that considerable Parts might be found in many Trees, fit for some Uses in the Navy; that he was told by the Deputy Ranger, that there were in that Forest 100,000 Oaks; but that the Purveyor and the Witnesses calculated them at about 70,000, having one with another Two Loads in a Tree.

That, in order to supply the present Scarcity of Timber, he thinks that an Importation from the East Country would be very advantageous to the Navy; that he has never imported from any other Place than *Dantzick*, the Plank from which Place he is by Contract allowed to work some in every Ship, that it used to be cheaper than *English*, it being 6 l. 12 s. while the *English* was 7 l. a Load; but that, from what he now hears of the Price of *Dantzick* Plank, he thinks, he shall work up *English* only; that he has heard there is very good Timber in *Wales*, and not far from Water Carriage; but that he has made no Calculation on the Price of it.

That one Reason of the quick Decay of great Ships is, the Want of Air in the Hold; and that it would tend much to the Preservation of the Navy, if the Ships, when lain up in Ordinary, were to have their Water-way and the Streaks next to it fore and aft taken out, in order to let Air into the Ship.

And being asked, in what Time it was usual to build a Ship? He said, that in the last War he built a Seventy-Gun Ship and launched her within the Year; but he acknowledged that was too short a Time, and that, by the present Contracts, the Ship-builders must be Three Years and an Half in building such a Ship.

And he gave it as his Opinion, that the Method to be observed in felling of Timber should be by barking of it in the Spring, and not to fell it till the succeeding Winter; for that he built the *Achilles* Man of War with Timber felled in that Manner, and, upon a late Trial, it was found, that the Timber in that Ship was still very good. Then,

Mr. *Roger Fisher* (another Ship-builder and Timber-merchant) informed your Committee, that he was sensible of the Scarcity of the Species of Timber which is made Use of in the Navy for many Years; that he has dealt for Timber in many Counties in *England*, and particularly in the Counties of *Lancaster*, *Chester*, *Salop*, *Stafford*, *Flint*, *Denbigh*, *Montgomery*, *Carnarvon*, *Pembroke*, *Carmarthen*, and *Monmouth*; and that, being sensible how much those Counties were affected by the Decrease of that Sort of Timber, he had, in the Year 1764, published a Book upon it, called, "Heart of Oak;" and previous to that Publication, he obtained Letters from most of the considerable Dealers in the aforesaid Counties; a summary View of whose Judgment he delivered in to Your Committee, and is hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 16.

And he said, the Forest of *Dean* is included in that Paper, with other of the King's Forests.

That as to the Causes of the aforesaid Scarcity, he said, he apprehended One of them to be, the Conversion of Timber into Coopers Ware and other small Stuff; inasmuch, that not One Fourth Part of the Timber fit for the Navy hath been applied to that Purpose; and

another Cause is, the Conversion of Wood Lands into Arable; and at the same Time he observed, that very little Arable is turned into Wood Land.

That in order to supply the aforesaid Deficiency, he said it is necessary for the Navy Board to collect as much Timber as can be got from Places which they have not yet had Recourse to; that, before the Publication of the said Book, very few of the Counties first mentioned supplied the Navy with any Timber at all; and that he has since recommended to the Navy Board some large Parcels of Timber, to be bought by Contract, in the North Part of *Shropshire*; and several large Parcels are going from *Denbighshire* to *Plymouth Yard*.

And he informed Your Committee, that he has lately been offered, for the Navy, 3,000 Trees of all Sizes, from 10 to 200 Feet; but he has not yet seen them, and therefore knows not whether they are fit for the Navy.

That there is Timber in *Montgomeryshire*, and other Inland Parts of *Wales*; but he doubts whether the Expence of Carriage would not be found so great, as to render it not worth removing; that he once sent several Hundred Loads from the Neighbourhood of *Montgomery* to *Plymouth*, the First Purchase of which was Two Guineas per Load (50 Feet to the Load) the Cost of Land and Water Carriage was 3 l. 10 s. per Load; and he knows not whether he got or lost by it.

And he delivered in, to Your Committee, a Paper, containing the State of the Naval Timber in *Great Britain*, and the necessary Mode of Supply for the future; the Purport of which Paper is as follows:

"That it appears to him, from his own Observation and Knowledge of the principal Timber Counties, that they are now so drained of the Navy Timber, that, unless a future and certain Supply can be secured, 20 Years will put a Period to our Maritime Force as a Navy; which is not from his own Knowledge only, but the concurrent Testimony of the principal Dealers and Shipwrights in different Parts of the Kingdom.

"That the Quantity of Timber that will be wanted for the Navy for 40 Years is easily ascertained by the Navy Board, by judging from the same Period backward, and by the Amount of the Survey of the Quantities in the King's Forests, and a further Survey of the Timber of private Property that is fit for the Navy; so much as will be necessary for the above Period to be secured by Purchase, or when Gentlemen possessed thereof intend to fall, the Navy to have the Preference at a fair Market-price.

"That future Supply should be provided for, by planting Forests and Waste Lands; and, as the Increasing the Maritime Force and Trade of *Great Britain* is of so material a Consequence, every Gentleman possessed of a large Estate should appropriate some Part thereof for the Use of Timber only, which he will find to be his greatest Profit.

"That, as the Preservation of the present Navy is of equal Consequence to that of a Provision for a future Supply, he is of Opinion, that a Method may be proposed, that the present Fleet may be preserved so as to endure Double the Time of any ever yet put in Practice; that, as the Method is simple, and attended with little or no Expence, an Experiment may be tried, and a very short Time will shew its Utility and Practicability; but, if it turns out to his most sanguine Expectations, the Sums that will be saved to the Nation will be immense."

And being desired to explain the Method of preserving Ships, alluded to in that Paper; he said, that as the Sun and Water destroy the Timber, there should be a Roofing for each Ship, of Deal, Inch, or Inch and a Quarter thick, designed for, and applicable to, Inside-work; so that, when they want Deals for that Purpose, they may have a constant Supply of it, ready seasoned, by taking off the old Deals and replacing them with

new; that, by this Means, the Whole of the Ship will be kept dry down to the Water's Edge, and the whole Fabric will become dry in a Twelvemonth.

And being asked his Opinion with respect to the Use of Beach for Ships Bottoms? he said, it might do very well up to the Floor Ribband, but not higher; that any Plank will continue good under Water, if it was good when it was put in.

That in regard to Foreign Timber, he said, that he has imported, from *Norfolk* in *Virginia*, some Four-Inch Oak Plank, which is from 30 to 70 Feet in Length, and from 13 to 15 Inches in Breadth, and keeps its Breadth from End to End; that, if it was well picked, it would be of the greatest Service for Bottom-Plank for Men of War, 6 or 7 Feet high, and almost to the Water's Edge; that for Ships Bottoms, so as to be always under Water 4 or 5 Planks above the Floor Ribband, it is as good or better than either *Dantzack* or *Engish* Plank; for he observed, that when Ships have been broke up, after 12 or 20 Years Service, this Plank, lying in the Bottom, has been as good as ever; that he has also used Timber and Plank from *New York* as well as from *Virginia*, and finds that which comes from *Virginia* to be better than what comes from *New York*; that the finest Pitch Pine in the World comes from *Virginia*, and is used by the *Liverpool* Ships in the *African* Trade, and also *Carolina* Pitch Pine, and both are found very durable; and though used in the Ships Sides above Water, and exposed to the Sun, are not affected by it, and do not shrink; that the *Carolina* Live Oak for Knee Timber is equal to the *Engish*, and excels that of all other Countries, but is not long enough for Compass Timber, nor for a Size for Knees of large Ships; and that he has been told that Live Oak grows to a great Size and in great Quantities at a Place called *Cumberland Island* on the Coast of *East Florida*; that in *Virginia* there is a Kind of Live Oak, called the Black Oak, to Appearance equal to the *Engish*, but does not know in what Quantity it might be had; that he has seen a Ship Load of Timber from *Quebec*, while it was sawing into Plank, and thinks it equal to the *Dantzack* or the *Engish*; and that Mahogany and Cedar would be very good for Beams or for Plank, if they could be got.

Being then examined as to the Price of the Timber he had spoke of; he said, that Plank from *Norfolk* in *Virginia* might be bought there and imported here at 3*l.* or 3*l.* 5*s.* per Load, if a proper Person was to be sent out to direct the Cutting of it; and he supposes, that it might be had from *Rapahannock* River in *Virginia* as cheap, and in greater Quantities; that he has imported Pitch Pines from *Norfolk* in *Virginia*, and sold them here at 1*s.* per Cubic Foot, Oak at 16*d.* or 18*d.* per Foot; Keel Pieces, from 40 to 70 Feet long, at 2*s.* and 3*s.* 6*d.* per Foot; and he supposes, that Timber may be imported at this Price from any Part of *America*, and from some Parts cheaper; but he said, that *American* Timber will not do for Outside Work above Water Edge, nor for Inside Work, being fit only for Keel Pieces, Floor Timbers, Plank under Water, and such Uses as the *Dantzack* Plank is put to.

That the Price of the *Engish* Timber, for Plank and Thick Stuff for the Navy, is advanced 30 or 40 per Cent. within these 10 Years; and the Merchants Timber for Frames, which used to be 9*d.* or 10*d.* per Foot, is advanced to 11*d.* and 13*d.* per Foot; and he said, that he is of Opinion, that to fell the Tree in a Season fit for Barking is not detrimental to the Timber.

Your Committee, in order to be correctly informed of the Quantity of Foreign Timber imported, and of the Net Duties payable thereon, called for the following Accounts; *viz.*—of the Quantities of Oak Plank and Oak Timber imported into *England* for 10 Years last past, distinguishing the Places from whence imported, and each Year,—and of the Net Duties now payable at Importation on Oak Plank and Oak Timber;—which are herewith annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 17 and 18.

And then proceeded to examine Mr. *Gabriel Snodgrass*, Surveyor to the *East India* Company; who said, that after he had served his Apprenticeship to Mr. *Snell*, a Builder's Measurer in One of the King's Dock-yards, he became a working Shipwright there; was then recommended by Mr. *Benjamin Siale* into the Service of the *East India* Company, and went to *Bengal* as their Shipwright, and had the Superintendency of all the Company's Shipping at that Place; that he has been their Surveyor in *England* ever since the Year 1757, and has been convertant in Ship-building ever since he became a Shipwright, and particularly attentive to the breaking-up of Ships of War, Foreign as well as *British*. And he delivered in, to Your Committee, a Paper, containing his general Ideas with respect to the promoting the Growth, and reducing the Consumption, of Oak Timber; a Copy of which Paper is as follows; *videlicet*,

"In the first Place, I am of Opinion, that the Forests and Waite Lands belonging to the Crown may be made, in 30 or 40 Years Time, capable of producing a regular successive Supply of Timber, sufficient for the Royal Navy.

"I am also of Opinion, that there is yet Plenty of large Timber within 40 or 50 Miles of Water Carriage; and, in the interior Parts of the Kingdom, great Quantities of large Timber; and that it is in the Power of Government to manage the Supplies from each County so as to encourage its Growth all over the Kingdom, and thereby render it highly improvable ever to be in Want of large or small Timber for the Navy, without circumscribing the Consumption of any Sort; for that would assuredly greatly discourage the Growth of Timber in general; but if any Doubts remain, the Lord's Lieutenants and the landed Gentlemen may, in the Course of this Summer, inform Government, what Quantity of large Timber is growing in each County.

"With respect to the Consumption of Oak Timber, I am of Opinion, that 1300 Men of War may be built in the Merchants Yards with little more Timber, and at as little Expence, as 200 are built in the King's Yards; but I do not mean to say, it is a right Measure to build or repair King's Ships in the Merchants Yards, for, I firmly believe, that Mode has greatly raised the Price of building Merchant Ships, as well as the Price of Timber in general; and sure I am, that there are People in the King's Yards as capable of building Ships as cheap and as good as those built in the Merchants Yards, if they had the same Encouragement. I am also of Opinion, that much Timber might be saved by a little Alteration in the Construction of the Top-sides of the King's Ships, as is explained in the annexed Section of a Midship Bend of a Seventy-four-Gun Ship, N<sup>o</sup> 19; and, in my Opinion, would be attended with great Utility to those Ships.

"I shall next proceed to the Preservation of Shipping in general: And here I would recommend all Ships to be built under the Cover of a Roof; that the King's Ships be built in Docks under a Roof; never to be floated out before they are wanted for Service; and, on their Return, when no further Service is required of them, to be laid up in those Docks again. That as the Expence of the Gates, &c. is the most material, I would recommend the lengthening the present Docks; and this may be done so as to require but few new Gates to be made, even for the whole Navy of *England*, and would save all the Expence of Mooring, the Ordinaries, &c. &c. and cause the Ships in the Navy to last and continue sound at least Half as long again as they do at present, and save the Expence of Four-Inch Plank, with the Money expended in repairing the Damage done to the Bottoms by the Worms, as I have been informed the *Triumph*, and several of the new Ships Bottoms in the River *Medway*, have lately been much injured by them; likewise the

" Annual Caulking, Painting, and Repairs, &c. &c. " would be saved.

" Now with respect to the *East India Company's* Ships: The old ones now in their Service are built lighter, in Proportion to their Tonnage, than any other Merchant Ships in the *River Thames*; they are too narrow for their Depth, which must be maintained, on Account of their Stowage in the Hold, and the necessary Height between Decks. Nothing but the constant Repairs, attended with great Expence, has made them tolerably safe for Four Voyages; it was therefore highly necessary, for these and many other Reasons, to build Ships stronger and broader; and, consequently, the Ships built latterly, I am of Opinion, will run Five or Six Voyages with much less Consumption of Timber, as well as Expence in Repairs, than the old Ships run Three and Four Voyages; they also fail cheaper, and consume a considerable less Number of Oak Trees in Proportion to their Tonnage; they are safer, stiffer, and much more defensible; they are more healthy for the Seamen and Recruits; are also very advantageous to the Company, in reducing their Freight, by Means of the additional Surplus Tonnage brought Home on Half Freight, which enables the Company to lower the Price of their Teas, so as to prevent the smuggling that Article from Abroad in so great a Latitude. Other Nations are so sensible of these Advantages, that they trade in much larger Bottoms than any in the Company's Employ.

" And with respect to their Scantling, so much has been said to the Committee of the honourable House of Commons relative thereto, that I need only observe, it appears to me, many Gentlemen have formed wrong Ideas on that Head, partly owing to their having been compared to Sixty-Gun Ships, &c.; and therefore, in order to set this Matter in the clearest Light, I beg Leave to observe, that although One of the largest *East India* Ships carries, both Outward and Homeward-bound, as much Tonnage to Sea as a Sixty-four-Gun Ship, and Homeward-bound their Cargoes are often Six Times the Value of a Sixty-four-Gun Ship; yet Two of them were built for 10 l. 10 s. per Ton each: A Sixty-Gun Ship costs, even in the Merchants Yards, 16 l. 12 s. 6 d. per Ton; and the Difference of building each Ship is as follows, *videlicet*,

" 1 *India* Ship, 864 Tons, at 10 l. 10 s. per Ton, 9,072 l. Five Ships is, 45,360 l.

" 1 Sixty-four-Gun Ship, 1,396 Tons, at 16 l. 12 s. 6 d. per Ton, 22,759 l. Two Ships is, 45,518 l.

" The above Sixty-four-Gun Ship is supposed to be built in the Merchants Yard; if the Comparison was made with a Sixty-four Gun Ship built in the King's Yard, then it would appear that Three of the largest Ships in the Company's Service did not cost so much building as One Sixty-four-Gun Ship. By this, I presume, it will appear impossible for their Scantling to be nearly equal; and Part of the Ships now building, although 758 Tons, Builders Tonnage, and who will carry to Sea 1,200 Tons, their principal Timbers are not so much fided as a Thirty-two-Gun Ship of War, nor are larger than those proposed by Mr. Randall for a Six Hundred Ton Ship. This is owing to the Builders being allowed to make their own Contracts, which is a great Indulgence, considering the Advantages arising to them by Repairs; yet some of the Gentlemen Builders are more moderate than others; and it gives me Pleasure to observe, Mr. Randall proposes a Four-Inch Bottom for his Six hundred Ton Ship, and gives just Reasons for the same: Indeed, I have heard, Three-Inch Bottoms had been proposed; but I judged Humanity would not suffer any Man to alter that great Improvement in the Company's Ships; as knowing the great additional

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" Strength and Safety added thereby. I am also of Opinion, many Ships have been lost with a Three-Inch Bottom, that a Four-Inch Bottom would have saved; and am confident, it will be the Cause of saving much Timber, not only in Repairs, but by enabling them to go a greater Number of Voyages. All Ships of 500 Tons and upwards should have Four-Inch Bottoms; for it is a known Fact, that no Nation builds with so thin Bottoms, or makes Use of so thin Sheathing, as the *English*; and if the Company were to allow the Captains and Officers Money in Lieu of Privilege in Trade, it would further prevent Smuggling and interfering in the Company's Trade; and were they to build their own Ships, it would not only be a very great Saving in their Freight, but One Half of the Quantity of Timber now consumed in Building and Repairing would be then sufficient; for there is now 61,000 Tons of Shipping in the Service, whereas, if the above Scheme was adopted, 40,000 Tons would, in my Opinion, be full sufficient; and as the Ships would in general go out the Season after their Arrival, they would make Six Voyages nearly in the same Number of Years that they are now making Four Voyages.—I forgot to mention in its proper Place, that it appears to me, the Price of small Timber and the building small Ships has advanced full as much or more than large Timber and the building large Ships; and that it is my Opinion, the building small Ships is more prejudicial to the Growth of Timber than the building large Ships.

" Permit me the Liberty of observing here, that the before-going Observations do not arise from any interested Views to myself, as I never had, nor do I ever expect, any Emolument myself from either large or small Ships, more than the Salary allowed me by the Company; and this I remark, to save the Trouble of asking Questions relative thereto.

" *East-India House,*  
" 22d April, 1771.

" *Gab. Snodgrass,*  
" Surveyor of Shipping to the  
" honourable *East India*  
" Company."

He likewise gave in another Paper, being a Copy of a Representation made by him to Mr. *Purling*, when he was Deputy Chairman of the *East India Company*; a Copy of which is as follows; *videlicet*,

" Sir,  
" You desire my Thoughts, not only on the Company's Ships, but on Shipping in general; what Methods I would propose, to prevent their decaying in so short a Time, how to lessen the Consumption, and assure a constant and regular Supply of Oak Timber for building them; as likewise if it is a real Fact that large Oak Timber and large Ships are dearer now, in Proportion to their Tonnage, than small Ships and small Timber, taking the Prices of last War to compare by; and if any of the *East India Company's* Ships, that have been lately built, are likely to consume more Timber in Repairs than the old Ships have; or if they consume more Timber in building than the Men of War do, in Proportion to each Ship's real Tonnage, taken from their greatest loaded Draft of Water; or if I can think of any Method of lessening the present Consumption of Timber, in the *India Service* in particular: To all which I shall reply, to the best of my Judgment and Recollection, without considering any thing foreign to the above.  
" In the First Place, I would build all Ships with Winter-fallen Timber, under the Cover of a Roof sufficiently large to shelter them entirely from the Weather while building; and never launch or float them, or drive any Tree Nails in them (or very few) before they were intended for Sea; and at their Return, if they are to be laid up, or require any considerable  
H  
" Repairs,



Repairs, I would have proper Docks, all covered over, to receive them; then I would take out all the Ballast, scrape, wash, and clean them, and give them all the Air possible; and continue them in the said Docks until they were wanted to proceed to Sea: I would construct or form all Ships so as to require the least Compass (that Large Grain Cut) Timber possible, and make Use of no Oak for Orlop Beams, &c. or wherever I could substitute Fir or Elm, &c. with Propriety in the Room of Oak. I would likewise convert all the Timbers in the Ships as near a Square as possible, that no Strength might be lost by reducing them too much the moulding Way, which is too frequently done, to the great Prejudice of Ships in general; and I would also increase the Thickness of the Plank of most Ships Bottoms, and rabbit the flame, and diminish the inside Plank in Proportion; I would have no Ships built, or Timber bought and converted to building, but by those who are to pay for their own bad Management, both in Purveying and Converting, throughout the Whole. Let the foregoing be put in Practice, and One Half of the Contumption and Decay of Oak Timber will be saved, if not more. Now, Sir, in order to assure a constant Supply of Oak Timber for the Navy for ever, I would plant such Parts of all the King's Forests that are capable of growing Oaks and not already planted, and inclose the lane, to prevent the Cattle from injuring them while young; and cause large Penalties to be laid on any one that should cut down or injure such Oaks, &c. And if, on a strict Survey, the Whole of the Crown Lands should not be thought sufficient, I would purchase other Wood and Waste Lands (on the Clays, that Soil being best) as should be judged necessary, and inclose and plant, &c. as before-mentioned; and cut no Timber Trees down before they were nearly at their full Growth; but purchase Timber of private Gentlemen so long as the bad Plantations made it necessary; by this Means, a regular and sure Supply of Oak Timber might be provided for ever. You next desire to know, if large Oak Timber and large Ships are clearer now than small Ships and small Timber: I answer, No; but rather the contrary; for small Ships, and consequently small Timber, hath raised in Price considerably more than large Ships since last War. See the Navy Contracts for Frigates and Seventy-four-Gun Ships. Your next Question is, Whether the late Ships built for the *East India* Company's Service are likely to consume more Timber in Repairs, than the old Ships usually have consumed? I answer, No; that is almost impossible; for I firmly believe those lately built on the belt of the Two Plans will run Six Voyages, if permitted, cost less Money, and consequently less Timber in Repairs, than the old Ships have done, on an Average for 40 Years past, for 4 Voyages. You next ask, If the present *India* Ships consume more Timber than Men of War, in Proportion to their Tonnage, taking each at their greatest loaded Draft of Water? No; so far from it, I am of Opinion, that every Load of Oak Timber converted for building such *India* Ships do carry to Sea Double the real Tonnage, that the like Number of Loads of Oak do, that is converted in the King's Yards for building of Men of War. You likewise desire to know, if I can think of no Method to reduce the present Consumption of Oak Timber in the *India* Company's Shipping: I answer, that this may easily be done, with considerable Advantage to the Company, by Two Methods: The First is, not to build any more Ships until their Number is reduced so as to have none lay by waiting for their Turns a whole Season; for it is better to have rather too few than too many, as a Supply may easily be had on any Emergency; and then each Ship might make eight Voyages in 12 or 14

Years, in the room of 4 Voyages, and the Tonnage of Shipping by this Means reduced from 60 to 40 Thousand Tons; this would save more than One Half of the Timber now consumed: The next Method I propose is, to build Ships sufficiently large to cope with the *French East India* Ships, by which Means few or no Men of War would be required to protect them; consequently the Timber used for building such Men of War would be saved; and for which, in the End, they are sure to pay Four Times as much as it would cost the Company to protect themselves; for large Ships are not only more defensible, but more healthy, and consume a considerable less Number of Oak Trees, but likewise fall cheaper in Proportion than small Ships do; and a very amazing Saving to the Company also arises by Surplus Tonnage. Other Nations know this full well, and proceed on these Principles. I know great Cry has been raised against building large Merchant Ships, and many Gentlemen believe this to be the Reason that large Timber is so scarce; whereas it is quite the contrary, as must appear when it is considered that very few large Merchant Ships have been built; therefore it must be the great Demand for small Timber, in Shipping and all other Branches of Consumption, that has tempted the landed Gentlemen to cut down so much Timber before it comes to its full Growth; and if these Measures are continued, a real Scarcity of large Timber must ensue in a few Years; which now may be prevented, not only by the foregoing Measures, but by repealing all Acts of Parliament that tend to encourage the Consumption of Oak Timber in general, such as not allowing Foreign Bottoms to be made free without a very considerable Expence, &c.; and by making other Acts, to prevent Foreigners building or repairing Ships, or otherwise making Use of Oak Timber for Foreign Service: And lastly, I would encourage building Ships in any Part of the World, sooner than discourage the landed Gentlemen in the bringing their Oaks to Maturity, by only leaving open One Market for large Timber (that is, the King's Yards) or sooner than diminish the Size of a single Merchant Ship, especially such Ships as must carry great Numbers of Troops long Voyages, and in Time of War are sure to meet the Enemy's Merchant Ships much above their Match. *Le Bourdonnaye* and the *Lofs of Fort St. George* should never be forgot.

Since I received your First Commands, I have heard a Bill is depending in the honourable House of Commons, tending to restrain the honourable *East India* Company's Ships to so small a Burthen as 600 Tons: I therefore, as a Servant of the Company's, beg Leave to observe, that this, if it passes into a Law, will, as I conceive, not only be very prejudicial to them, but to the Nation in general, and the People's Health. I therefore presume, it merits the Attention and cool Deliberation of the Legislature; and as there is no Necessity for granting Leave to build any more Ships for the *India* Service for some Years to come, they may, if they and you please, take any Time to deliberate on this most weighty Affair, which is a very lucky Circumstance; for the Government now occupy most of the principal Merchants Yards with their old and new Ships, a Measure that has always been very prejudicial, not only to the honourable *East India* Company, but to the Government, and all Owners of Merchant Ships. Before I conclude, I must beg Leave to observe, that so little do the honourable *East India* Company's Shipping merit any Restraint on Account of consuming large Timber, that the Owners of such Ships are permitted, and do build them with so small Scantling, that their principal Timbers are less than the principal Timbers of the King's Frigates, although they

"they carry to Sea more than Double their Tonnage,  
"and Homeward-bound are often more than Ten Times  
"their Value.

"I am, Sir,  
"Your most obedient, humble Servant,  
"East India House, the  
"12 March 1771." "Gab. Snodgrass."

And being asked, What were the Grounds of his Opinion, expressed in his First Paper, "that in 30 or 40 Years the Forests and Waste Lands belonging to the Crown may be made capable of producing a regular successive Supply of Timber sufficient for the Royal Navy; and that there is yet Plenty of large Timber within 40 or 50 Miles of Water Carriage; and in the interior Parts of the Kingdom, great Quantities of large Timber?" he said, That he was not concerned in the Purchase of Timber, his Office being only to survey the Building of Ships for the Service of the Company, and to take Care that they are built according to the Directions of the Committee of Shipping; but that his Opinion is formed from the Conversation which he has had with Timber-merchants, Ship-builders, and various other Persons, who have travelled about the Country.

He was then asked, Whether he knew the Company entertained any Idea of building no new Ships till the general Tonnage of their Ships should be reduced to 40,000 Tons? He said, That he did not; and that his Opinion upon that Point was founded on the Company's not sending out more than 20,000 Tons a Year (Builders Measure) that, whether the Company were to build smaller or larger Ships than those mentioned in his Paper, they would still have the same comparative Advantages over Ships of War in respect of carrying Burthen; generally about Three Fourths more than their Measure: That the Ships of War, from their light Draught of Water when launched to their general deep draught of Water, carry for the most Part the same as the Builders Measure amounts to.

That the large Ships now built for the Company with Four-Inch Bottoms will go, each of them, One or Two Voyages more than the smaller Ships they had before; that a Reduction of the Tonnage of each Ship, would necessarily increase the Number of the Whole, and cause a greater Consumption of young Timber; that, under the present Regulations of the Company, the Captains are not obliged to employ more Seamen in each Ship than formerly; that Two Ships of 750 Tons each, varying little in their Masts and Yards from smaller Ships, might be navigated with a less Number of Seamen than Three Ships of 500 Tons each, and would better transport the same Number of Soldiers, and tend more to the Preservation of their Healths; because the smaller Ships cannot allow a sufficient Height between their Decks; that since the Company have made Use of large Ships with Four-Inch Bottoms (which is about Three Years) he does not know that any Accident of Consequence has happened to them, but remembers several to have happened before; that other European Nations use larger Ships in their India Trade than we do, and would therefore, in Time of War, have great Advantages over us; that the large Ships, armed and manned as they now are, can make a better Defence than the smaller Ships which were in Use before, though not yet sufficient to encounter the Foreign Ships; that the Guns which the Captains of the *English East India* Ships are directed by the Company to carry, are 9 Pounders; but some of the large Ships generally carry 12 Pounders.

Mr. John Brent, Deputy Surveyor to the *East India* Company, confirmed the Evidence of Mr. Snodgrass in every Particular.

Then, in order to ascertain the real Tonnage carried by the *East India* Company's Ships, Your Committee called for an Account of the Number of Ships sent out

each Year by the *East India* Company for these Five years past, together with the Tonnage of all such Stores or Merchandize as have been shipped in those Years for or on Account of the said Company, under the Directions of the Committee of Shipping, distinguishing the Tonnage by Weight from that by Measure; which is hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 20.

Your Committee then proceeded to inquire into the State of the King's Forests; and thereupon examined John Pitt, Esquire, Surveyor General of His Majesty's Woods; who said, that *Dean Forest* consists of 23,000 Acres, and abounds with more good Timber than any other; and that, by the last Account he had of it, which was upon a Survey in the Year 1764, it was computed that there were then in that Forest, 27,302 Loads fit for the Navy, 16,851 Loads of about 60 Years Growth, 17,649 Loads of about 30 or 40 Years Growth, and 20,066 Loads rotting and decaying; and that he believes, on Account of the quick Growth of Timber in that Forest, there is as great a Quantity there now as was when that Survey was taken.

And he said, that he is perfectly convinced, that the Navy can never be fully supplied with Timber without the Aid of the King's Forests; but that there cannot be furnished from thence a sufficient Quantity, unless Inclosures are made there.

And he informed Your Committee, that by the Act of the 20th of Charles the Second, 11,000 Acres were directed to be forthwith inclosed, which he believes was completed in the First Two Years; that the said Act likewise required, that whenever any Part of the Inclosures were grown out of the Reach of Cattle, it should be laid open, and a like Quantity inclosed; meaning, as he understood it, that there should be never less than 11,000 Acres kept inclosed; that he don't know of any Inclosure having been made since that Time, except One, called, "The Buckholt Inclosure," which he believes to be about 500 Acres, and which, when he came into his Office in the Year 1756, he found encompassed by a Wall, the greatest Part of which was in Ruins; that he reported this Matter to the Treasury, and, by their Directions, the Wall was repaired; that, in the Year 1758, he put in a Memorial to the Treasury, stating, that there was only the 500 Acres inclosed, instead of the 11,000, which he ought to have found under the Directions of the aforesaid Act; in Consequence of which, the Treasury ordered a Commission to issue for inclosing 2,000 Acres, which has accordingly been done, and is now in very good Order.

And being asked, whether that was a new Parcel of Ground, that had never before been inclosed? he said, He thought it was.

That a Second Commission issued from the Treasury about the Year 1762, for inclosing 2,000 Acres more; and a Third Commission issued the latter End of the Year 1769, or Beginning of the Year 1770, for inclosing 2,000 Acres more: That the second mentioned Inclosure was not made on Account of his being removed from his Office, and nothing of that Sort being done by his Successor; but that the last Inclosure will be forthwith made, he only waiting for an Estimate of the Expence. And he said that there is scarce any Part of that Forest that is not fit for the Growth of Timber; and that he thinks it would be advisable, to plant with young Oaks several Parts in which no Timber now grows; that he had planted out some young Oak Trees, which thrive very well, and come up in great Numbers, and shall recommend it to the Treasury, to issue Orders for inclosing, from Time to Time, till the whole 11,000 Acres shall be inclosed.

He was then examined with respect to the *New Forest*; and said, that, upon a very accurate Survey taken a few Years ago, it appears, that there were upon that Forest, 19,836 Oak Trees fit for the Navy, containing 36,662 Loads; about One Third of which are very proper, and none of them contain less than 70 Feet of Timber; that

that there are also 7,104 Beach Trees, containing 13,114 Loads, and 1,743 defective Oaks for Sales, Fuel, or Building, containing 3,836 Load; and that he reckons that the Trees fit for Naval Uses, are between a Fourth and a Fifth Part of the Timber on the whole Forest.

That there is a Contract of long Standing, now subsisting and renewed every 20 Years, between the Surveyor General of the Woods and the Purveyor of Portsmouth Dock-yard, for the Supply of 500 Load of Oak Timber and 50 Beaches, for the Use of that Dock, Annually; and also another Contract between the Warden of the Forest and the same Purveyor, for 370 Load of Oak and 50 Beaches, Annually; which, in the Opinion of the Witnesses, is too great a Draught on the Forest, notwithstanding the young Timber now growing there is innumerable; for, in case a Third Part of the Trees, supposed fit for the Use of the Navy, shall upon Trial prove to be unfit for the Purposes of the Navy, which is not improbable, the Quantity for their Service will be greatly reduced: That it would be proper to fell some of the best of those Oaks which are deemed by the Purveyor not fit for the Navy, when Money is to be raised by virtue of the Warden's Contract, in order that the Purveyor may take out of them what will answer his Purpose; as the Witnesses is of Opinion, that some of those Oaks, or some Parts of them, would be found fit for Naval Purposes. And, upon the Whole, he said, that the *New Forest* is in an improved State.

That, by an Act of the 6th and 10th of King William the Third, 2,000 Acres of that Forest was directed to be forthwith inclosed, and 200 Acres more Yearly for the Term of 20 Years.

And being asked, what had been done towards carrying that Act into Execution? he said, When he came first into his Office, he found that the whole Quantity then inclosed consisted of only between 2 and 300 Acres, and those so ill fenced that they were common to all Cattle; which he represented to the Treasury, and had Directions to repair the Fences; which he accordingly did, and they are now in good Condition, but no Inclosures have been made since: That there was a Warrant from the Treasury, for a Commission to inclose 1,000 Acres last Year, which is as much as can be inclosed in One Year; that a Draught of this Commission was sent to him for his Perusal; but before he had thoroughly considered it, he received Notice that the Execution of it was suspended for a Time, upon some general Objections to Inclosures, stated, as he has been informed, by the late Duke of Bedford.

That he takes the different Provisions in the Two Acts (one of them directing 11,000 Acres out of 23,000 to be inclosed in the Forest of *Dean*, the other directing only 6,000 out of between 50 or 60,000 in the *New Forest*) to have arisen from the Difference of the Soil; there being great Quantities of barren Heath in the *New Forest*, a sandy and gravelly Soil.

He then proceeded to give Your Committee an Account of the State of the other Forests. And as to the Forest of *Bear*, he said, there had been good Timber, but most of it was cut down in Sir *Edmond Thomas's* Time; that the Soil is very good, and a considerable Quantity of young Timber is coming up; but there are no Inclosures there.

That as to *Windfor Forest*, there is very little there fit for Naval Use, great Part consisting of old dotard Trees; and that the Quantity of growing Timber is very small; that some Parts of the Forest are very fit for the Growth of Timber, but far the greatest Part is barren Heath; that there is a pretty Stock of King's Timber within *Swinley*, to the Amount of 600 Load, and several young Trees coming up, Part of it inclosed Coppices; that there are 100 Trees now felled there, fit for Naval Use, which the Purveyor has viewed; but the Witnesses doubts whether he will have it; as the Navy Board offers only £. 1. 18s. a Load, and he can sell it for 4 Guineas.

That *Cranbourn Chase* adjoins upon *Windfor Forest*, on which there are a great many dotard Oak and Beach Trees, unfit for any Use but Fuel, among which there are some prosperous young Oaks, but few in Number; and both the Forest and Chase lies within 6 Miles of Water Carriage; that there are many Parts both of *Windfor Forest* and *Cranbourn Chase* fit for the Growth of Timber, and proper to be inclosed, as appears by a Memorial he delivered in to the Treasury on the 2d of March 1769.

That on *Epping Forest* there is no Timber fit for the Use of the Navy; that there is a great deal of Land there very proper to be inclosed; and there is no other Way of preserving Timber there.

That in the Forest of *Whittlewood* there is some Oak there, to the Amount of about 600 Loads, fit for the Use of the Navy; and that, by his Desire, a Purveyor of the Navy is gone down, to see what will be fit for the Use of the Navy, out of a Quantity of Timber that he is directed by the Treasury to cut down; there is likewise a great Quantity fit for Plank, as he was informed by a Purveyor of the Navy about Six Years ago, and no considerable Quantity has been felled since; there are also a great many Coppices, which may, if improved, furnish large Quantities of Timber.

That upon *Salisbury Forest*, which adjoins to *Whittlewood*, he computes there is about 150 Load of Timber fit for the Use of the Navy; and that in both those Forests there is a sufficient Succession of young Trees.

That in *Alice Holt Forest*, there is a pretty good Stock of thriving Timber, but he does not apprehend there is any large Quantity fit for the Use of the Navy; that the Soil is very good; and that he shall recommend the making Inclosures both in that and *Woolnor Forest*, which joins to it; that in *Woolnor Forest* there are scarce any Trees growing, though many Parts very fit for that Purpose.

That in *Whitchwood Forest* there are above 800 Acres of Coppice, wherein might be raised large Quantities of Timber; and that the Whole of that Forest is fit for the Growth of Timber, and has the peculiar Advantage of being inclosed by a Wall.

That in *Sherwood Forest* there are some Timber Trees of great Age and Size; but, upon a Trial made a few Years ago, the Whole of it was found to have stood too long, and to be unfit for the Use of the Navy; that some Parts of the Soil are very good for the Growth of Timber, particularly, the Parts called *Birklands* and *Billbogs*.

That *Enfield Chase* is not within his Survey, it being Part of the Duchy of *Lancaster*; but the Soil is good for Timber.

That the Navy is supplied with a limited Quantity of Timber from the *New Forest*, at the limited Price of 38s. by Contract; and also from *Dean Forest*, what the Treasury, at the Application of the Commissioners of the Navy, shall direct, and at the same Price; and that he never had any Directions for supplying the Navy from any other Forest at any limited Price.

And he said, that as to the Inclosures he has proposed, he doubts whether, considering the Variety of Claims of Commoners and others, they could be carried into Execution, except *Dean Forest* and the *New Forest*, without an Act of Parliament: And that there are several Abuses in Forests, by cutting down Trees by Stealers of Wood; and also Abuses of Rights, that would be proper to be remedied by Act of Parliament.

Your Committee thought it necessary to close their Enquiry with a Search into the Laws now in being, for preserving Timber, and encouraging the Growth and Importation of it; and find, that by an Act passed in the First and Second Year of King Philip and Queen Mary, the Exportation of Wood is prohibited.

There

There are various Acts, which, for the Preservation of Timber and Fire-Wood, direct that no Timber not below a certain Size, in some Situations, shall be converted into Coal or Fuel for the Supply of the Iron-works; and, upon the same Principle, forbid the Erection of new Iron-works, within certain Limits.

By an Act, passed in the 35th Year of King Henry the VIIIth, and another in the 13th Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, the Owners of all Coppices, and of Woods above 24 Years Growth, are to leave on such Coppices 12 Standils, or Storers, and on such Woods 12 Trees on every Acre, at the Time of falling such Coppices and Woods; the Standils or Storers to remain there till they shall be 10 Inches square at 3 Feet from the Ground; and the Trees in such Woods to remain there 20 Years; and such Coppices and Woods to be well fenced and inclosed for a certain Number of Years after they shall have been felled and cut down.

Besides the Statute of *Merton*, by which Lords of Woods, where others have Common of Pasture, are impowered (leaving sufficient for the Commoners) to improve and inclose the Residue; and the Act of the 13th of Edward the First, and the 3d and 4th of Edward the VIth, confirming and enforcing the said Statute; the abovementioned Act of the 35th of King Henry the VIIIth, fixes the Lord's Share at One Fourth Part of the Wood, to be set out in the Manner directed by that Act, cut down, and well inclosed for the Preservation of the future Growth; and by the Acts of 29 and 31 George II, Woods, Wastes, and Pastures, may be inclosed, for the Growth and Preservation of Timber, by the Consent of the Lords or Owners of such Woods, Wastes, and Pastures, and of the major Part of the Persons interested therein.

That by an Act, passed in the 20th Year of King Charles the IIId, for the Increase and Preservation of Timber in *Dean Forest*, 11,000 Acres were directed to be inclosed, for the Growth and Preservation of Timber;

which, as the Timber becomes out of Danger of being prejudiced by the Cattle and Deer, were to be laid open, and the like Quantity inclosed, so as always to keep up the said 11,000 Acres of inclosed Land in the said Forest: And that by an Act, passed in the 9th and 10th of King William the Third, for the Increase and Preservation of Timber in the *New Forest*, the same Provisions were made for inclosing 2,000 Acres, as in the last mentioned Act for inclosing 11,000; and also 200 Acres more Yearly, for 20 Years, were thereby directed to be inclosed, and the said Forest to remain in Possession of the Crown for ever, as a Nursery for Wood only; but that the Act should not extend to alter the Laws relating to Forests, except as therein is particularly mentioned.

By several temporary Acts, which are still in Force, Plank and Timber may be imported from His Majesty's Plantations in *America*, Duty-free; and a Bounty of 20s. per Ton (Forty Feet to the Ton) is granted on Masts, Yards, and Bow-sprits, imported from thence, or brought from *Scotland*; and the Commissioners of the Navy are to have the Pre-emption of such Masts, Yards, and Bow-sprits, for 20 Days after Importation: And by an Act 5 George the Third, Cap. 45, Bounties are granted upon Deals, Planks, Boards, and Timber, imported from *America*.

There are several Acts to prevent felling, without the King's Licence, such White Pines in *America* as do not grow on Land in private Property, and particularly such Pines of the Diameter of 24 Inches and upwards, at 12 Inches from the Ground, in *Massachusetts Bay*, or such Land as, though private Property now, was not so before 7 October 1690; that Day is the Date of the Charter granted by King William and Queen Mary to that Province; and in that Charter there is a Reservation of all Trees of those Dimensions not growing upon Land which was theretofore granted to any private Persons.

# A P P E N D I X.

## Nº I.

Navy Office, 9th April 1771.

An ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Timber and Plank used in His Majesty's Navy, from the 1st January 1763 to the 31st December 1769 (being the latest Period to which the Storekeepers have transmitted their Accounts hither) distinguishing each Species, and the *British* from the Foreign and *American*, as also each Year; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the Honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, dated the 21st of last Month.

Species.		Loads	Years.							Total.
			1763	1764	1765	1766	1767	1768	1769	
Timber, Ash	—	—	112	135	93	84	98	142	197	861
— Beech	—	—	695	1,131	1,401	986	306	902	1,971	7,392
— Elm	—	—	2,246	1,822	2,145	1,480	2,813	2,719	1,749	14,974
— Fir	—	—	1,136	8,447	1,695	1,529	1,922	2,247	1,744	11,720
— Oak and Thick Stuff,										
— — — — — <i>British</i>			14,953	18,829	21,271	26,008	26,908	24,613	22,606	155,188
— — — — — Foreign			85	76	109	157	34	80	183	724
— — — — — <i>American</i>			—	—	—	—	2	20	49	71
Plank, Beech	4	to 3	9	57	59	118	53	9	170	475
— Elm	4	3	126	160	102	167	301	1,121	277	2,254
— — — — — 2½	1½	—	10	17	28	13	14	26	19	127
— Oak, <i>British</i>	4	3	1,301	1,590	2,368	1,897	2,313	2,043	2,039	13,551
— — — — — 2½	1½	—	485	343	587	411	458	478	469	3,225
— Foreign	4	3	1,305	1,283	1,655	1,333	1,464	1,542	1,196	9,778

H. Palliser,  
J. Williams,  
T. Brett,  
E. Mason.

N<sup>o</sup> 2.

*Navy-Office, 9th April 1771.*

An ACCOUNT of the Stock of Timber for Ship-building and Repairs, in each of His Majesty's Yards, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of *December* 1770; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of last Month.

Yards.	Loads.	Timber.						Plank.						
		Ahn.	Beech.	Elm.	Fir.	Oak.		Beech.	Elm.	Oak.				
						Britiſh.	Foreign.			Britiſh.		Foreign.		
										Inches thick.	Inches thick.		Inches thick.	Inches thick.
4½ to 3	4 to 3	4½ to 3	2½ to 1½	4½ to 3										
Deptford,	—	—	101	111	915	—	—	54	88	4	70			
Woolwich,	41	—	20	30	1,621	68	—	16	120	6	216			
Chatham,	14	97	113	242	2,014	636	—	—	520	7	130			
Sheerness,	2	—	38	25	641	—	—	15	28	3	48			
Portsmouth,	33	208	105	1,244	4,412	—	10	166	532	17	275			
Plymouth,	—	—	9	497	2,584	—	1	12	18	10	80			
Total	90	305	386	2,149	12,187	704	11	263	1,315	47	819			

*H. Palliser,  
J. Williams,  
E. Majon,  
T. Brett.*

N<sup>o</sup> 3.

*Navy Office, 9th April 1771.*

An ACCOUNT of the Stock of Timber that would be desirable or necessary to be kept in the respective Yards, for the effectual and constant Repairs, Rebuildings, and keeping up the present Navy; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of last Month; *videlicet*,

Oak Timber and Knees, including } Loads { which is calculated to be sufficient for Three Years Con-  
Rough and Sided — } 66,000 } sumption in all the Yards.

*H. Palliser,  
J. Williams,  
T. Brett,  
E. Majon.*

*Navy Office, 9th April 1771.*

An ACCOUNT of the principal Dimensions and Scantlings of the Frame, Beams, Knees, and Thick Stuff, fided, moulded, and used, in the building a Ship of each Class in the Royal Navy, from 100 Guns to Frigates of 28 Guns inclusive; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, dated a 1<sup>st</sup> of last Month.

**Nº 4.**

[illegible]

[illegible]



	Guns	100		90		80		74		70		64		60		50		44		36		32		1		23	
		Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
Quarter Deck Beams fided			10		9		9		9		9		9		9		8		6		6		6		6		6
moulded			8		7		7		8		8		7		7		6		5		5		5		5		5
Knees hanging fided			6		6		6		6		6		6		6		5		5		5		5		5		5
lodging fided			6		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
Clamps thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
Quarter Deck Sparketting lower Edge thick			3		3		3		4		4		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3
upper Edge thick			3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3
Fore Cattle Beams fided			10		9		9		9		9		9		9		6		6		6		6		6		6
moulded			8		7		7		8		8		7		7		6		5		5		5		5		5
Knees hanging fided			6		6		6		6		6		6		6		5		5		5		5		5		5
lodging fided			6		5		5		6		6		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
Clamps thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
Sparketting thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
Round Houle Beams fided			3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3		3
moulded			7		7		7		7		7		6		6		6		6		6		6		6		6
Knees hanging fided			5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
lodging fided			5		4		4		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
Clamps thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
Thick Stuff at the Floor Heads, Three Strakes of			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
One Strake above and below them of			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4
at the first Futtock Heads, middle Strake thick			7		7		7		8		8		7		7		7		6		6		6		6		6
One Strake above and below them of			8		8		8		7		7		6		6		6		5		5		5		5		5
on the Ends of the Orlop Beams thick			7		7		7		6		6		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
Sheer Strake thick			7		7		7		6		6		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
Wale thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		3		3		3		3		3
Channel Wale thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		3		3		3		3		3
Main Wale thick			5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
Thick Stuff below the main Wale, 1st Strake thick			10		9		9		8		8		7		7		6		6		6		6		6		6
2d			7		7		7		6		6		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
3d			7		7		7		6		6		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
4th			7		7		7		6		6		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4
5th			6		6		6		5		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4		4
6th			6		6		6		5		5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4		4
7th			5		5		5		4		4		4		4		4		3		3		3		3		3
Plank of the Bottom thick			4		4		4		4		4		4		4		4		3		3		3		3		3

H. Palfrey,  
J. Williams,  
T. Brett,  
E. Major.

N<sup>o</sup> 5.

A L I S T of all the *Engage* built Ships in the Service of the Company of Merchants trading to the *East Indies*, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1770; specifying the Names and actual Tonnage of each, and the Years in which they were respectively built.

N <sup>o</sup>	Ships Names.	Builders Tonnage.	Built in the following Years.	N <sup>o</sup>	Ships Names.	Builders Tonnage.	Built in the following Years.
	Lord Mansfield —	632			Houghton —	707	
	Duke of Richmond —	656	1759.		Europa —	676	
	York —	679			Egmont —	700	
5	Earl of Elgin —	687			Northington —	676	1766.
	Royal Captain —	676	1760.	50	Greenwich —	676	
	True Briton —	679			Triton —	637	
	Admiral Pocock —	666			Helstor —	688	
	Horsenden —	666			Valentine —	676	
	Clive —	687	1761.		Vereft —	676	
10	Earl of Alburnham —	679		55	Queen —	804	1767.
	Earl of Middlesex —	657			Sea Horse —	676	
	British King —	663			Strewbury —	676	
	Bute —	657			Granby —	786	
	Salbot —	657			Duke of Grafton —	804	1768.
15	Glatton —	676	1762.	60	Bridgewater —	804	
	Cruttenden —	663			Uuntingdon —	716	
	Deptsford —	676			Hawke —	716	
	Pigot —	676			Revelution —	804	
	Havannah —	676			Prince's Royal —	864	
20	Speaker —	702		65	Scaffold —	804	1769.
	Duke of Gloucester —	657			Prime —	864	
	Vansittart —	676			Worcester —	716	
	Kent —	657			Latbam —	716	
	Northumbreland —	657			Morfe —	864	
25	Affa —	657	1763.	70	Duke of Portland —	716	
	Duke of Albany —	676			Calcutta —	761	
	Edrl of Lincoln —	676			Grosvenor —	729	
	Anfon —	657			Colebrooke —	716	
	Devonshire —	657			Lord Holland —	804	1770.
30	Harcourt —	676		75	Rockford —	716	
	Ponborne —	676			Lord North —	761	
	Salisbury —	657			London —	716	
	Thames —	676			Godfrey —	716	
	Ankerwyke —	676	1764.		Ships building in the Room of the		
35	Pacific —	668			Norfolk —	716	
	Grenville —	676		80	Neptune —	716	
	Speke —	720			Osterley —	758	
	Dutton —	676			Admiral Watson —	758	
	Prince of Wales —	716			Britannia —	804	
40	Duke of Kingston —	676			Royal Charlotte —	758	
	Lord Camden —	707	1766.	85	Plaffey —	804	
	Duke of Cumberland —	716			Fox —	758	
	Hampshire —	696			Marquis of Rockingham —	758	
	Lionels —	693					
45	Nottingham —	701					

Permission was granted for building the above Ships previous to the 1<sup>st</sup> of last Month.

*East India House, London,*  
the 6<sup>th</sup> April 1771.

*Cba. Tho. Coggan,*  
Clerk to the Committee of Shipping.

N<sup>o</sup> 6.

L I S T of all the Ships and Vessels which constitute the *East India Company's* Marine Force in the *East Indies*; specifying the Names, Complement of *Europeans* and of *Natives*, and the Number and Calibre of Cannon in each, on the 25th April 1770.

Names.	Number of <i>Europeans</i> , Commanders and Officers included.	Number of <i>Christian</i> <i>Topasies</i> .	Number of <i>Lafars</i> , or Country Sailors.	Number of <i>Topasies</i> and <i>Seapoy</i> s put on board as a Detachment.	Total Number of <i>Sol-</i> <i>diers</i> and <i>Seamen</i> on board each Vessel.	Number of Guns.	Size of the Guns.
Ship <i>Resolution</i>	188	16	40	50	294	20	12
Ship <i>Revenge</i>	106	16	34	31	187	20	6
Bombay <i>Grab</i>	111	16	34	31	192	20	6
<i>Eagle</i> <i>Snow</i>	40	12	20	20	92	16	6
<i>Drake</i> <i>Snow</i>	36	12	20	20	88	14	6
<i>Expedition</i> <i>Grab</i>	39	12	20	20	91	16	4
<i>Success</i> <i>Ketch</i>	40	8	18	18	84	12	4
<i>Piper</i> <i>Ketch</i>	24	6	20	18	68	12	4
<i>Terrible</i> <i>Bomb</i> <i>Ketch</i>	24	8	18	18	68	12	4
<i>Fancy</i> <i>Bomb</i> <i>Ketch</i>	17	8	18	18	61	8	4
<i>Fox</i> <i>Ketch</i>	2	—	4	—	6	8	2
<i>Lively's</i> <i>Prize</i> <i>Gallivat</i>	3	6	20	16	45	7	2
<i>Ranger</i> <i>Ketch</i>	13	6	22	20	61	10	3
<i>Dolphin</i> <i>Schooner</i>	7	6	20	16	49	8	3
<i>Tyger</i> <i>Schooner</i>	18	6	20	16	60	8	3
<i>Bonetta</i> <i>Gallivat</i>	3	6	20	16	45	7	3
<i>Otter</i> <i>Ditto</i>	4	6	20	16	46	7	3
<i>Hazard</i> <i>Ditto</i>	9	6	20	16	51	6	3
<i>Wolf</i> <i>Ditto</i>	8	6	20	16	50	6	3
<i>Antelope</i> <i>Ditto</i>	1	6	20	16	43	8	3
<i>Hawok</i> <i>Ditto</i>	10	6	20	16	52	6	2
<i>Badger</i> <i>Ditto</i>	6	6	20	16	48	6	2
<i>Swift</i> <i>Ditto</i>	14	6	20	16	56	6	2
<i>Greyhound</i> <i>Ditto</i>	2	6	20	16	44	6	2
<i>Sheerwater</i> <i>Ditto</i>	4	6	20	12	42	7	1
<i>Squirrel</i> <i>Ditto</i>	3	6	16	16	41	2	2
<i>Fly</i> <i>Ditto</i>	5	6	16	16	43	5	1

*East India House, London,*  
the 6th April 1771.

*P. Mitchell, Secretary.*

N<sup>o</sup> 7.

A LIST of the Number of *European* built Ships in the Service of the *East India* Company each Year, from 1740 until the present Time.

In the Year	—	1740	—	55	Ships.
		1741	—	58	
		1742	—	61	
		1743	—	63	
		1744	—	62	
		1745	—	61	
		1746	—	62	
		1747	—	62	
		1748	—	63	
		1749	—	66	
		1750	—	66	
		1751	—	65	
		1752	—	65	
		1753	—	65	
		1754	—	63	
		1755	—	63	
		1756	—	63	
		1757	—	64	
		1758	—	63	
		1759	—	63	
		1760	—	61	
		1761	—	62	
		1762	—	65	
		1763	—	68	
		1764	—	72	
		1765	—	73	
		1766	—	74	
		1767	—	76	
		1768	—	76	
		1769	—	85	
		1770	—	87	
At this present Time	—	—	—	87	

*East India House, London,*  
the 6th April 1771.

*Chas. Tho. Coggan;*  
Clerk to the Committee of Shipping.

N<sup>o</sup> 8.

COPIES of such Resolutions of the *East India* Company, as have been made to regulate the Tonnage and Dimensions of the *European* built Ships in their Service, from the Year 1751, when the First Regulations were made by the Court of Directors relating thereto, to the present Time.

At a Court of Directors, the 28th August 1751.

**RESOLVED**, That it be a standing Order of this Court for the future, That no Tender of any Ship be received, that shall exceed 600 Tons in Measurement, except such Ships as have been already tendered, or are at present upon the Stocks, building in the Room of Ships worn out, or lost in the Company's Service.

And that the Master Attendant, and Surveyor of Shipping, certify the Tonnage of each new Ship that shall be tendered for the Service of the said Company.

At a Court of Directors, the 10th June 1752.

**Resolved**, That, as some Inconveniences may arise from the Limitation of the Measurement of Ships to be built for the Company's Service, as mentioned in the Order of Court of the 28th August last, it be a standing

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Order for the future, that no Tender of any new Ship be received, which shall exceed 106 Feet Keel, and 33 Feet broad for Measurement, or be above 630 Tons when built; as such will be proper Ships for the Company's Service, and able to carry Nine P'ounders.

And that the Master Attendant, and Surveyor of Shipping, do certify the same of each Ship that shall be tendered for the Service of this Company.

At a Court of Directors, the 4th June 1755.

**Resolved**, That, for enabling the Ships to be employed in this Company's Service to carry a Third Deck and Nine Pounders, the Owners may be permitted to build them of 33 Feet 6 Inches in Breadth, instead of 33 Feet; to which they were limited by Order of Court of the 10th June 1752.

L

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At a Court of Directors, the 31st May 1758.

*Ordered*, That for the future the Ships to be built for this Company's Service be not less than 106 Feet by the Keel for Tonnage, and 33 Feet 6 Inches in Breadth; that it be recommended to the Owners, that all such Ships be built with Three Decks, as it will entitle them to a Preference; and that the said Committee do give the necessary Directions for the Owners being apprized thereof.

At a Court of Directors, the 6th November 1765.

*Resolved*, That no Ship be taken up by the Company in future, which shall exceed 110 Feet Keel, and 34 Feet broad, Tonnage Measure, except such Ships which are now building.

And that the Master Attendant and Surveyor of Shipping, do certify the Length and Breadth of each new Ship which shall be tendered for the Company's Service.

At a Court of Directors, the 15th October 1766.

*Resolved*, That in future no Ship be built to be employed in the Company's Service, which shall exceed 110 Feet Keel, or be less than 34 Feet broad, Tonnage Measure.

And that the Master Attendant, and Surveyor of Shipping, do certify the Length and Breadth of each new Ship which shall be tendered for the Company's Service.

At a Committee of Shipping, the 15th April 1767.

Letter from *George Stainforth*, Esquire, dated this Day, was read; requesting the Committee will give him Leave to make an Alteration in the Length of a new Ship building for his Son, agreeable to a Letter inclosed from Mr. *John Randall*, who is of Opinion the Addition of One Frame more in Midships would be a great Improvement in the Strength, Sailing, and Tonnage: In the Strength, as having a greater Distance between her Ports, consequently stronger in her Upper Works; in Sailing, as Experience has proved that the lengthening Ships in Midships has always made them sail better; and in Tonnage, as she will only measure 17½ Tons more, but will carry near 34 Tons more; and the additional Length required will be only 2 Feet 6 Inches.

Mr. *Snodgrass* being called in to the Committee, informed them the several Particulars mentioned in Mr. *Randall's* Letter were true.

*Resolved*, That, for the Reasons before mentioned, Mr. *Stainforth's* Request be granted.

At a Committee of Shipping, the 24th April 1767.

The Minutes of this Committee of the 15th Instant were read; and, except that Part which relates to the Request of Mr. *Stainforth*, which the Chairman of the Committee was desired to report to the Court, the said Minutes were then approved.

At a Court of Directors, the 24th April 1767.

The Chairman of the Committee of Shipping acquainted the Court, that, in Consequence of a Letter from Mr. *John Randall*, Ship Builder, dated the 14th Instant, addressed to Mr. *George Stainforth*, representing

the Utility of the new Ship building for Captain *Stainforth* being built 2 Feet 6 Inches longer in her Midships, the Committee had, on the 15th Instant, granted Mr. *George Stainforth's* Request in that respect.

And the Court now taking the said Affair into their Consideration; and the above Letter, with the Order of this Court of the 15th October 1766, in relation to the Measurement of Ships to be employed in the Company's Service, being severally read;

*Resolved*, That this Court do approve of the Transaction of the Committee of Shipping in the said Affair.

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping to re-consider the above-mentioned Order of this Court of the 15th October last; to confer with the Owners thereupon, and to report.

At a Court of Directors, the 15th June 1767.

On reading a Letter from Captain *Brook Sampson*, dated the 11th Instant; praying, as the Ship *Hardwicke*, which he commanded, has performed her Four Voyages, the Court will give him Leave to build a new Ship on her Bottom, of the same Dimensions of that Ship now building by Mr. *Stainforth*; he having already the Consent of Captain *Durand*, and the rest of the Owners, for that Purpose.

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping to examine and report.

At a Court of Directors, the 18th December 1767.

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Committee of Shipping, to re-consider that Part of their Report now read, regarding the Dimensions of the new Ship building in the Room of the *Hardwicke*, and to report.

At a Court of Directors, the 22d December 1767.

*Ordered*, That the Order of this Court of the 15th October 1766, regarding the Measurement of Ships for the Company's Service, be repealed: Also,

That the Reference to the Committee of Shipping, made 24th April 1767, to confer with the Owners on the Size of the Ships for the Company's Service, be discharged.

At a Court of Directors, the 8th January 1768.

*Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of this Court, that in future the Draughts of the Contracts for building Ships to be employed in the Company's Service be laid before the Committee of Shipping, One Month at least before such Contracts are executed; and that the said Committee do report their Opinion thereon to this Court.

At a Court of Directors, the 27th June 1770.

*Resolved*, That this Court are of Opinion, that it is necessary the Ships employed in the Company's Service should be under some Limitation with respect to Size; and that those to be built in future should be 110 Feet Keel, and not less than 35, or more than 36 Feet broad, Tonnage Measure; and that Ships of the above Size should have all Four Inch Bottoms, and the Scantlings and other Dimensions not to be less than the smallest proposed by the principal Builders in the River of *East India* Ships.

*East India House, London,*  
the 6th April 1771.

*P. Michell, Secretary.*

N<sup>o</sup> 9.

Navy Office, 9th April 1771.

An ACCOUNT of the Contract Prices for Timber and Plank paid by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy since the Year 1737, distinguishing each Year; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, dated 21st of last Month.

Timber Oak.	Year.	Deptford.	Woolwich.	Chatham.	Sheerness.	Portsmouth.	Plymouth.
Caft in Proportion to Straight Meeting at 100 Feet. Compafs : - 96 } per Load -	1738	£. s. d. 3 — —	£. s. d. 3 — —	£. s. d. 3 — —	£. s. d. 3 1 —	£. s. d. 3 — —	£. s. d. 3 — —
	1739	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 1 —	3 — —	3 3 —
	1740	3 6 —	3 6 —	3 6 —	3 8 6	3 — —	3 6 —
	1741 } 1742 }	3 6 —	3 6 —	3 6 —	3 8 6	3 — —	3 8 —
	1743	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 12 6	3 — —	3 8 —
	1744	3 13 —	3 13 —	3 13 —	3 15 —	3 3 —	3 11 —
	1745	3 17 —	3 17 —	3 17 —	3 19 —	3 7 —	3 15 —
	1746	4 — —	4 — —	4 — —	4 2 —	3 10 —	3 18 —
	1747	3 18 —	3 18 —	3 18 —	4 — —	3 12 —	4 2 —
	1748 } 1749 }	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	3 — —	3 7 —
	1750	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 12 —	3 10 —	3 10 —
	1751	4 — —	4 — —	4 — —	4 2 —	3 15 —	3 10 —
	1752 } 1753 }	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 7 —	3 17 —	3 17 —
	1754 } 1755 }	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 7 —	3 17 —	4 7 —
	1756	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 5 —	4 7 —	4 5 —	4 7 —

The Prices of 1756 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

## N. B. Contract Meetings.

Highest Straight	—	270 to 230	
Compafs	—	259 to 220	
Lowest Straight	—	70 to 60	
Compafs	—	53 to 45	
Meeting	Straight from	100 to 190	Advances One Shilling in every Five Feet.
Compafs	—	96 to 182	
—	Straight from	190 to 270	Advances Six Pence in every Five Feet.
Compafs	—	182 to 259	
—	Straight from	100 to 90	Falls One Shilling in every Five Feet.
Compafs	—	96 to 86	
—	Straight from	90 to 80	Falls Two Shillings in every Five Feet.
Compafs	—	86 to 77	
—	Straight from	80 to 70	Falls Two Shillings and Six Pence in every Five Feet.
Compafs	—	77 to 67	
—	Compafs	67 to 53	Falls Three Shillings in every Five Feet.

Timber Elm.	Year.	Deptford.	Woolwich.	Chatham.	Sheerness.	Portsmouth.	Plymouth.
Caft in Proportion to Straight Meeting at 100 Feet. } per Load -	1738	£. s. d. 2 10 —	£. s. d. 2 10 —	£. s. d. 2 10 —	£. s. d. 2 11 —	£. s. d. 2 10 —	£. s. d. 2 10 —
	1739	2 10 —	2 10 —	2 10 —	2 11 —	2 10 —	2 13 —
	1740	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 6	2 10 —	2 13 —
	1741 } 1742 }	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 6	2 10 —	2 18 —
	1743	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 6	2 10 —	2 18 —
	1744 } 1745 }	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	2 10 —	2 18 —
	1746	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	2 14 —	3 4 —
	1747 } 1748 }	2 10 —	2 10 —	2 10 —	2 12 —	2 10 —	2 17 —
	1749	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	3 — —	3 — —
	1751	3 5 —	3 5 —	3 5 —	3 7 —	3 — —	3 — —
	1752 } 1753 }	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	3 — —	3 — —
	1754	3 — —	3 — —	3 — —	3 2 —	3 — —	3 10 —

The Prices of 1754 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Timber

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Timber Beech.	Year.	Deptford.	Woolwich.	Chatham.	Sheerness.	Portsmouth.	Plymouth.
Cairt in Proportion to Streight Meeting at 100 Feet. } per Load -	1738	£. s. d. 2 6 —	£. s. d. 2 6 —	£. s. d. 2 6 —	£. s. d. 2 7 —	£. s. d. 2 6 —	£. s. d. 2 6 —
	1739	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 7 —	2 6 —	2 9 —
	1740	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 14 6	2 6 —	2 9 —
	1741	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 14 6	2 6 —	2 14 —
	1742	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 12 —	2 14 6	2 6 —	2 14 —
	1743	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 6	2 6 —	2 14 —
	1744	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 —	2 6 —	2 14 —
	1745	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 —	2 6 —	2 14 —
	1746	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 18 —	2 8 —	2 18 —
	1747	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 8 —	2 6 —	2 13 —
	1748	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 6 —	2 8 —	2 6 —	2 13 —
	1749	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 —	2 16 —	2 16 —
	1750	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 16 —	2 18 —	2 16 —	2 16 —

The Prices of 1750 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Timber Ash.							
Girt Measure - - - per Load	1738	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 15 —	2 14 —	2 14 —
	1739	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 15 —	2 14 —	2 14 —
	1740	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 14 —	2 15 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1741	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1742	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1743	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1744	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1745	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1746	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1747	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1748	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1749	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1750	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1751	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1752	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1753	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1754	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1755	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1756	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1757	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	3 3 —	2 14 —	2 16 —
	1758	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	2 14 —	2 16 —

The Prices of 1758 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Oak of 4 1/2 and 4 Inches } - per Load	1738	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1739	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1740	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1741	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1742	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1743	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 2 6	6 — —	6 — —
	1744	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1745	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —
	1746	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —
	1747	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1748	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —
	1749	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 2 —	6 — —	6 — —
	1750	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 — —
	1751	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 2 —
	1752	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1753	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1754	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1755	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1756	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1757	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1758	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1759	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1760	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1761	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1762	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1763	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1764	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1765	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1766	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1767	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1768	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 10 —	6 5 —	6 15 —
	1769	7 — —	7 — —	7 — —	7 — —	7 — —	7 — —

The Prices of 1769 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank

	Year.	Deptford.	Woolwich.	Cbatham.	Sbeernefs.	Portsmouth.	Plymouth.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Plank Oak of 3½ Inches, per Load	1738						
	1739						
	1740	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —
	1741						
	1742						
	1743	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 12 6	5 10 —	5 10 —
	1744						
	1745						
	1746	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —
	1747						
	1748						
	1749	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —
	1750						
	1751						
	1752						
	1753	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	5 15 —	5 10 —
	1754						
	1755						
	1756						
	1757	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 2 —	6 — —	6 5 —

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Oak of 3 Inches, per Load	1738						
	1739						
	1740	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —
	1741						
	1742						
	1743	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 2 6	5 — —	5 — —
	1744						
	1745						
	1746	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —	5 2 —
	1747						
	1748						
	1749	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —	5 — —
	1750						
	1751						
	1752	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 5 —	5 — —
	1753						
	1754	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 5 —	5 15 —
	1755						
	1756	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 15 —
	1757						
	1758	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 12 —	5 10 —	5 15 —
	1759						
	1760						
	1761						
	1762						
	1763						
	1764	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 10 —	5 12 —	5 10 —	5 15 —
	1765						
	1766						
	1767						
	1768						
	1769	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —	6 — —

The Prices of 1769 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.



	Year.	Deptford.			Woolwich.			Chatham.			Sheernefs			Portsmouth.			Plymouth.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Plank Oak of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Inches, per Load	1738																		
	1739																		
	1740	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—
	1741																		
	1742																		
	1743																		
	1744	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	13	6	4	11	—	4	11	—
	1745																		
	1746	4	13	—	4	13	—	4	13	—	4	13	—	4	13	—	4	13	—
	1747																		
	1748																		
	1749	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—	4	11	—
	1750																		
	1751																		
	1752	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	11	—
	1753																		
	1754																		
	1755	4	15	—	4	15	—	4	15	—	4	15	—	4	15	—	5	5	—
	1756																		
	1757	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	16	—	4	18	—	4	16	—	5	6	—

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Oak of 2 Inches, per Load	1738																		
	1739																		
	1740	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—
	1741																		
	1742																		
	1743																		
	1744	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	4	6	4	2	—	4	2	—
	1745																		
	1746	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—
	1747																		
	1748																		
	1749	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—	4	2	—
	1750																		
	1751																		
	1752	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	2	—
	1753																		
	1754																		
	1755	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—
	1756																		
	1757	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	7	—	4	9	—	4	7	—	4	17	—

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Oak of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Inches, per Load	1738																		
	1739																		
	1740	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—
	1741																		
	1742																		
	1743																		
	1744	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	12	6	3	10	—	3	10	—
	1745																		
	1746	3	11	—	3	12	—	3	12	—	3	12	—	3	12	—	3	12	—
	1747																		
	1748																		
	1749	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—	3	10	—
	1750																		
	1751																		
	1752																		
	1753	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	10	—
	1754																		
	1755																		
	1756																		
	1757	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	15	—	3	17	—	3	15	—	4	5	—

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

	Ycar.	Deptford.			Woolwich.			Chatham.		Sbernefs.		Portsmouth.			Plymouth.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	£.	s.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Plank Elm of 4 Inches, <i>per</i> Load	1738																
	1739																
	1740	5	—		5	—		5	—	5	—	5	—		5	—	
	1741																
	1742																
	1743																
	1744																
	1745																
	1746																
	1747	5	—		5	—		5	—	5	2	6	5	—		5	—
	1748																
	1749																
	1750																
	1751																
	1752																
	1753																
	1754	5	—		5	—		5	—	5	—	5	—		5	—	
	1755																
	1756																
	1757	5	—		5	—		5	—	5	—	5	—		5	10	—

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Elm of 3 Inches, <i>per</i> Load	1738																
	1739																
	1740	4	—		4	—		4	—	4	—	4	—		4	—	
	1741																
	1742																
	1743																
	1744																
	1745																
	1746																
	1747	4	—		4	—		4	—	4	2	6	4	—		4	—
	1748																
	1749																
	1750																
	1751																
	1752																
	1753																
	1754	4	—		4	—		4	—	4	—	4	—		4	—	
	1755																
	1756																
	1757	4	—		4	—		4	—	4	—	4	—		4	10	—

The Prices of 1757 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

Plank Beech of 4 Inches, <i>per</i> Load	1738	}	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —
	1739								
	1740								
	1741								
	1742	}	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 12 6	4 10 —	4 10 —	
	1743								
	1744								
	1745								
	1746								
	1747								
	1748	}	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 12 6	4 10 —	4 10 —	
	1749								
	1750								
	1751								
	1752	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —		

The Prices of 1752 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

	Year.	Deptford.	Woolwich.	Chatham.	Sheerness.	Portsmouth.	Plymouth.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Plank Beech of 3 Inches, per Load	1738						
	1739						
	1740	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —
	1741						
	1742						
	1743						
	1744						
	1745						
	1746						
	1747	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 12 6	3 10 —	3 10 —
	1748						
	1749						
	1750						
	1751						
	1752	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —	3 10 —

The Prices of 1752 not having been altered, they are the present Contract Prices.

H. Palliser.  
J. Williams.  
T. Brett.  
E. Mason.

# N° 10.

Navy Office, 9th April 1771.

An ACCOUNT of the Time necessary or expedient (in the Opinion of the Surveyor of the Navy) for sawing Timber before it is built with, and when in the Frame; prepared pursuant to an Order of the Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber; dated the 21st of last Month.

THAT it is the Opinion of the Surveyor of the Navy, That the Building Slips in each Yard have new Ships set up on each of them; and that no Ship of the Line have any Thick Stuff or Plank wrought on her till the Frame be complete, and has stood, after it is completed, at least One Year to season, and that of a Frigate Six Months.

That all the Thick Stuff and Plank should be sawn at least One Year before it be used, and put under Sheds (as soon as it is sawn) and stowed Edgewise with Sticks between them, for the Air to pass freely through the several Pieces.

That the Half Beams as soon as cut be put up in a

perpendicular Direction about the Brows and Standards of the Slips, and not taken down until they have stood so at least Six Months.

That all Knees be sided as soon as they are brought into the Yard, put under Sheds as soon as they are sawn, and Sticks placed between them, stowed Side by Side, and not one upon another.

H. Palliser,  
J. Williams,  
T. Brett,  
E. Mason.

SCANTLING OF TIMBER, &c. of sundry Ships built for the honourable East India Company by Messieurs Wills and Hallett.

For Ships of 500, and 546 Tons.

Length of Keel.		Extreme Breadth.		Depth in Hold.		Between Middle and Upper Deck.		Waile.		Keel Square.		Floor.		Lower Futocks.		Mid. Futocks.		Upper Futocks.		Top Timbers.		Lower Deck Beams.		Middle Deck Beams.		Upper Deck Knees fided.		Middle Deck Knees.		Upper Deck Knees fided.		Main Waler, thick.		Plank of the Bottom.		Lower Deck Clamps, thick.		Middle Deck Clamps, thick.		Upper Deck Clamps, thick.		Lower Deck Spunketting.		Middle Deck Spunketting.		Upper Deck Spunketting.	
Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.		
176.	32	14	5	—	4 6	2 2	1	1	9 1	11 1	9 1	10 1	8 1	10 1	7 1	10 1	4 14	12	—	11 by 9	8 1	—	6 1	—	3 6 and 5	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	3.		

For Ships of 606, and 614 Tons.

176.	32	14	5	—	4 6	2 2	1	1	9 1	11 1	9 1	10 1	8 1	10 1	7 1	10 1	4 14	12	—	12 by 9	8 1	—	6 1	—	3 6 and 5	—	4	—	4	—	3.
------	----	----	---	---	-----	-----	---	---	-----	------	-----	------	-----	------	-----	------	------	----	---	---------	-----	---	-----	---	-----------	---	---	---	---	---	----

For Ships of 703, and 760 Tons.

177.	32	14	5	11 6	2 2	3 3	1	1	11 1	13 1	10 1	11 1	9 1	11 1	12 1	11 1	6 14	12	12 by 10	9 7	9	7	6 6 8 11 4	5 6 and 5	4	—	4	—	4	—	3.
------	----	----	---	------	-----	-----	---	---	------	------	------	------	-----	------	------	------	------	----	----------	-----	---	---	------------	-----------	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

For Ships of 800, and 804, and 860 Tons.

178.	32	14	9 6	1 6	2 2	6 15	16	2	1	11 1	13 1	11 1	12 1	10 1	12 1	11 1	6 14	12	10 by 13	10 by 8	9 1	7 1	6 14 8 11 4	5 6 and 5	4	—	4	—	4	—	3.
------	----	----	-----	-----	-----	------	----	---	---	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	----	----------	---------	-----	-----	-------------	-----------	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

## N° 12.

The DIMENSIONS and SCANTLINGS (as taken from the Contracts) of several Ships built and building by Messieurs John Perry and Company at Blackwall, for the Service of the honourable United East India Company, from the Year 1755 to this Time, April the 11th 1771.

Technical Terms made Use of.	N° 32 from 1756 to 1767 inclusive.		N° 9 in 1769, 1770, and now building.
	Smallest.	Largest.	
Dimensions.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Lengths of Keels for Tonnage	106	110	110
Extreme Breadths	33 6	35	35 2
Measurements	632 Tons.	716 Tons.	723 Tons.
Scantlings.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Keels Square	1 2	1 2	1 2½
Keelsons Square	1 2	1 2	1 2½
Stern Posts Square	1 3½	1 3½	1 4
Stems { sided	1 ½	1 ½	1 ½
{ moulded	1 2	1 2	1 2½
Wing Transoms { deep	1 2	1 2	1 2
{ broad	1 6	1 6	1 6
Deck Transoms deep	1	1	1 2
Floor Timbers { long	22 4	22 4	23
{ sided	1	1	1
{ moulded	10	10	11½
Lower Futtocks { sided	1	1	1
{ moulded	9½	9½	10½
Middle Futtocks { sided	11	11	11
{ moulded	9	9	10½
Upper Futtocks { sided	10½	10½	11½
{ moulded	8½	8½	9½
Top Timbers { sided	10½	10½	11½
{ moulded	4	4	6½
Plank upon the Bottom thick	3	3	4
Moft of the Plank on the Inside thick	3	3	4
Lower Deck Beams { sided	1 2	1 2	1 2
{ moulded	1 ½	1 ½	1 ½
Lower Deck Knees sided	8	8½	9
Lower Deck Standards sided	11	11	none
Upper Deck Beams { sided	1	1	1
{ moulded	10	10	10
Upper Deck Knees sided	6	6½	7
Upper Deck Standards sided	9½	9½	none
Quarter Deck Beams { sided	8	8	9
{ moulded	6	6	7
Quarter Deck Knees sided	5	5½	6
Forecastle Beams { sided	8	8	9
{ moulded	6	6	7
Forecastle Knees sided	5	5	6

N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Gentlemen,  
IN Purfuance of an Order from the Committee appointed by the House of Commons, to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Timber, I beg Leave to offer the underwritten Scantlings,

taken from the Contracts of Ships built for the *East India* Company, except only that of Five Hundred Tons; they not having lately built any so small.

	Ship of 860 Tons.	Ship of 800 Tons.	Ship of 700 Tons.	Ship of 600 Tons.	Ship of 500 Tons.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Stern Post at the Head	16 Square	16 Square	16 Square	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ Square	14 Square
Wing Transom	19 by 15	19 by 15	18 by 14	17 by 13	16 by 12
Floor Timbers	14 — 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10	12 — 9
Lowest Futtocks	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 — 10	12 — 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 — 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Middle Futtocks	13 — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 — 10	11 — 9	10 — 8
Upper Futtocks	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 — 9	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Top Timbers { at the Heel	12 — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 9	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 — 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Top Timbers { at the Heads	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 — 5	8 — 4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 4
Lower Deck Beams	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 13	14 — 13	14 — 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 12	13 — 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Middle Deck Beams	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 — 10	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 10	11 — 9
Upper Deck Beams	10 — 8	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ — 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 — 6	7 — 5

*Rotherbith,*  
12th April 1771.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*John Randall.*

N<sup>o</sup> 14.

*Rotherbith, April 18th 1771.*

PROPOSALS for the Preservation of Timber fit for building the Royal Navy.

IF the *East India* Company's Ships were confined to the Burthen of 600 Tons, and to the Scantlings of the *Crown* of 44 Guns and 800 Tons Burthen, built by *Messieurs Taylor and Randall* in the Year 1745, and now in *Messieurs Wells' Wet-dock* (which Ships I should apprehend quite sufficient for the Company's Service) there would then be Timber enough in the Inland Parts of *England* to build as many Ships, to carry 74, 64, and 50 Guns, as would be required for a Century to come.

Again, if all the Men of War, of 70 Guns and upward, were built in His Majesty's Yards, that, with the annual Repair of the whole Navy, would be Work sufficient for all the Hands at present employed in the Yards; all the Ships of War under that Size might

then be built at a much less Expence in the Merchants Yards than they are at present in the King's Yards; the Merchant Builders would then buy only such sized Timber as suited those smaller Classes of Ships, by which Means the principal Timber would be wholly left for the Use of Government.

The Ships thus built in the Merchants Yards would be under the Inspection of the Surveyors and Builders of the Navy, and might stand long enough in the Frame to season the Timbers, as in His Majesty's Yards.

I shall now proceed to set down the Dimensions and Scantlings of the Ship *Crown*, with some small Variations, which I think may be admitted for the Ship of Six hundred Tons:

	Crown. 814 Tons.		Ship of 600 Tons.	
	Feet	In.	Feet	In.
Length by Keel for Tonnage	108	10	100	—
Breadth to a Four Inch Plank	37	6	33	8
Depth in Hold	16	—	14	—
Height between Decks	6	8	6	—
Height between Middle and Upper Deck	none	—	6	2
Depth in Wattle	5	5	1	3
Burthen in Tons	814	—	602	—
Tumbling Home of the Top Timbers	4	8½	2	4
SCANTLINGS.				
Keel Square { in Midships	1	2½	1	2
{ forward	1	1	1	1
{ abaft	—	9½	1	—
Fals Keels thick { upper	—	5	—	5
{ lower	—	4	—	4
Stem sided and moulded	1	1	13	by 14 In.
— Square at the Head	1	3	13	— 14
Stern Post Square at the Head	1	6	15	— 15
Wing Transom	18	by 12	17	— 13
Deck Transom	—	11	15	— 12
Hawse Pieces sided	18	In.	18	In.
Floor Timber sided and moulded	12½	— 11	12½	— 11
Lower Futtocks	12½	— 11	12½	— 11
Second Futtocks	11½	— 10½	11½	— 10½
Third Futtocks	11	— 10	—	none
Upper Futtocks	11	— 9½	11	— 9½
Top Timbers { lower End	11	— 9	11	— 9
{ upper End	9	— 4½	9	— 4½
Plank of the Bottom, thick	—	3	—	4
Shift of the Timbers	6	— 4	6	— 6
Room and Space	2	— 4	2	— 5

On a Comparison of the above Scantlings it will appear, that I have set down Four Inch Plank for the Bottom of the Ship of 600 Tons; whereas that of 800 has only Three Inch Plank.

I would here beg Leave to observe, that as the Company's Ships are frequently ashore both in the River of *Thames* and *India*, with their Cargoes in (which are very heavy) on this Account, the additional Thickness of

the Bottom will, in my Opinion, be of much Service and Security to the Ships and Cargoes.

The Whole of the above is submitted, with due Deference, to the Judgment of the honourable Committee, by their

Most obedient humble Servant,  
*John Randall.*

### Nº 15.

Gentlemen,  
IN Puruance of an Order from the Committee appointed by the House of Commons, to consider how His Majesty's Navy may be better supplied with Tim-

ber, I beg Leave to offer the undermentioned Scantlings, taken from the Contracts of Ships built for the Service of the *East India Company*, except only that of Five Hundred Tons; they not having lately built One so small.

	Ship of 860 Tons.	800 Tons.	700 Tons.	600 Tons.	500 Tons.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Stern Post at the Head	16 Square.	16 Square.	16 Square.	15½ Square	14 Square
Wing Transom	19 by 15	19 by 15	18 by 14	17 by 13	16 by 12
Floor Timbers	14 — 12½	13½ — 12½	13 — 11½	12½ — 10	12 — 9
Lower Futtocks	13½ — 12½	13½ — 11½	13 — 10	12 — 9½	11 — 8½
Middle Futtocks	13 — 11½	12½ — 11½	12 — 10	11 — 9	10 — 8
Upper Futtocks	12½ — 10½	12½ — 10½	11 — 9	10½ — 8½	9½ — 7½
Top Timbers { at the Heel	12 — 11½	12 — 11½	11½ — 9	10½ — 8½	9 — 7½
{ at the Heads	10½ — 6½	10½ — 6½	9 — 5	8 — 4	7½ — 4
Lower Deck Beams	14½ — 13	14 — 13	14 — 12½	13½ — 12	13 — 11½
Middle Deck Beams	12½ — 10½	12½ — 10½	12 — 10	11½ — 10	11 — 9
Upper Deck Beams	10 — 8	9½ — 7½	8½ — 6½	8 — 6	7 — 5

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

*William Duden.*

Nº 16.

Deptford,  
12th April 1771.

Nº 16.

A summary View of the Judgment of the different Dealers in the different Counties, according to Number of Years, respecting the proportionate Decrease of Oak Timber.

Persons.	Counties, &c.	Years.	Decrease.
Wood and Palmer,	Whitehaven in the North,	40	Seven-eighths.
Okill,	Lancashire, Cheshire, North Wales,	50	Three-fourths.
Galibity	{ Lancashire, Cheshire, Shropshire, Stafford, } Wales,	50	Seven-tenths.
Yoxal,	Cheshire,	30	One-half.
Walford,	Shropshire,	30	Four-fifths.
Bridge,	Carnarvon, Denbigh, Merioneth, Flint,	15	Two-thirds.
Mojlin, Esquire	In Denbigh, advertised for Sale,	1	One third.
James,	Caermarthen, Pembroke, Cardigan,	30	Nine-tenths.
Morgan,	Caermarthen, &c.	13	Seven-eighths.
Lomas,	Brecknockshire,	30	Two thirds.
Moore,	Worcester, Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth,	40	Four-fifths.
Smith,	Worcestershire, Warwickshire,	40	Four-fifths.
Rooke,	{ Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Cornwall, } { Hants, Surrey, Kent, Sussex,	40	Four-fifths.
Steele,	The South Parts,	40 to 50	Nine-tenths.
Chitty,	Timber Counties in general,	40	Seven eighths.
Devisby,	Essex, &c.	14	Nine-tenths.
Schubbs,	Yorkshire,	40	Three-fourths.
White,	Hampshire,	40	Four-fifths.
Morris,	Surrey, &c.	40	Three-fourths.
Martin,	Newport, Greenock, Ayre, Dumfries,	26	Three-fourths.
Miller,	River Clyde, Port Glasgow,	21	No Supply.
Palmer,	Shropshire, Montgomeryshire,	17	No Supply.
H. Williams,	Pembrokeshire,	several	Great Consumption.
W. Williams,	{ Glamorgan, Monmouth, Gloucester, Hereford, } { Shropshire,	from a Youth	Great Destruction.
Matthews,	Bristol,	15	Almost entire Destruction.
Andrews,	Plymouth,	10	{ Not One Quarter of the } Choice.
Bird,	London all round,	30	{ Decrease very considera- } ble,
Goldsworth,	General,	— —	Very little remaining.
Mills,	Surrey, Kent, Sussex,	in 19	{ Price advanced from 3 l. to } 4 l. 5 s.
Sir J. Phillips,	Pembrokeshire and elsewhere,	40	Almost all taken down.
		— —	{ In Danger to cease to be a } Maritime Nation.



N<sup>o</sup> 17.

An A C C O U N T of the Quantities of Oak Plank and Oak Timber imported into *England* for Ten Years last past ; distinguishing the Places from whence imported, and each Year.

[illegible]

Ditto continued from Christmas 1765 to Christmas 1770.

Imported from	From Christmas 1765 to Christmas 1766.				1767.				1768.				1769.				1770.			
	Oak Plank Quantities.		Oak Timber Quantities.		Oak Plank Quantities.		Oak Timber Quantities.		Oak Plank Quantities.		Oak Timber Quantities.		Oak Plank Quantities.		Oak Timber Quantities.		Oak Plank Quantities.		Oak Timber Quantities.	
	Load.	Feet.	Number.	Pieces.	Load.	Feet.	Number.	Pieces.	Load.	Feet.	Number.	Pieces.	Load.	Feet.	Number.	Pieces.	Load.	Feet.	Number.	Pieces.
Danish and Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red Country	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	1,639	5	—	—	42	21	—	—	48	21	—	—	1,021	28	—	—	5,702	5	—	—
Sweden	14	35	—	—	5	—	—	—	32	11	—	—	117	45	—	—	153	30	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	15	34	—	—	89	27	—	—	61	24	—	—	111	11	—	—
Prussia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	53	3	—	—	38	10	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	21	13	—	—	248	9	—	—	159	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	12	—	—	—	47	36	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	—	—	—	—	17	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Georgia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manitowish	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New England	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New York	1,641	20	50	219	1,632	41	5,488	547	212	20	3,785	1,107	18,270	3	534	1,566	32	535	164	39
New Jersey	73	20	—	—	455	47	—	—	142	23	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
New South	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	203	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	142	186	39	—	—	313	43	1,010	70	—	—	—
Provincias	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia and Maryland	1,005	48	—	—	94	20	—	—	834	28	1,813	201	20	1,280	15	82	—	—	—	—
Total	44,441	44	31,107	888	49	6,553	6,096	20	14,149	1,730	33	3,191	2,446	2	59,030	4,190	14	1,562	4,690	23

Columb. Navy, London,  
24th April 1771.

John Tumbler,  
Assistant Inspector General.

## N° 18.

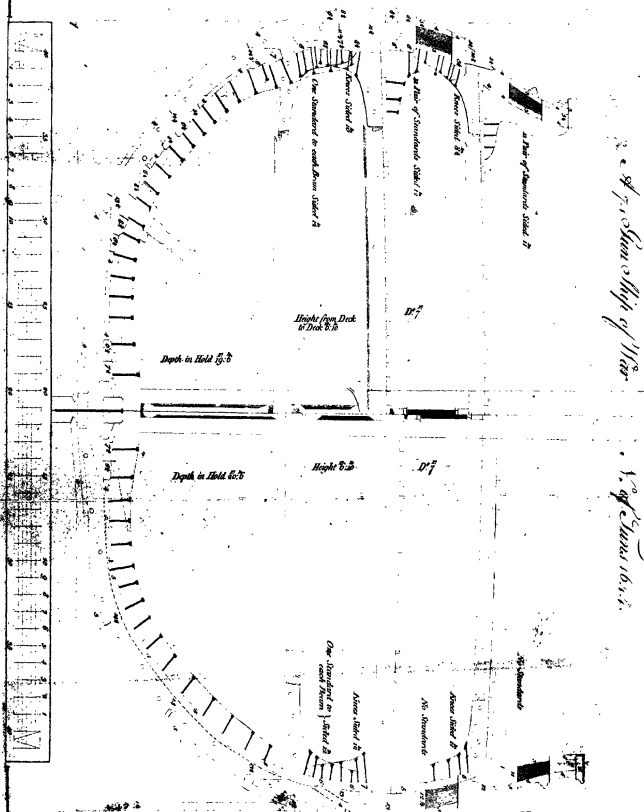
An ACCOUNT of the Nett Duties now payable at Importation, on Oak Plank and Oak Timber.

	By British Sub- jects in British Ships.	By Aliens, or in Foreign Ships.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Oak Plank pays per the Load, containing 50 solid Feet, of } Nett	— 17 2 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	— 17 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
any Part of Europe, except Ireland and France, — } Nett	— 14 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	— 15 1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
of Ireland, and all other Places, except France or } Free	— —	— —
any French Colony or Plantation, — } Free	— —	— —
of the British Plantations in America, — } Free	— —	— —
Oak Timber pays per the Load, containing 50 solid Feet, of } Nett	— 8 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	— 8 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
any Part of Europe, except Ireland and France — } Nett	— 7 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	— 7 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
of Ireland, and all other Places, except France or } Free	— —	— —
any French Colony or Plantation, — } Free	— —	— —
of the British Plantations in America, — } Free	— —	— —

Custom House, London,  
24th April 1771.

John Tomkyns,  
Assistant Inspector General.





of the Secretary of War

1<sup>o</sup> of June 1857

RECALL TO THE PAGES 58.



Nº 20.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships sent out each Year by the *East India* Company for these Five Years past; together with the Tonnage of all such Stores or Merchandize as have been shipped in those Years for or on Account of the said Company, under the Directions of the Committee of Shipping; distinguishing the Tonnage by Weight from that by Measurement.

				Tonnage of Stores or Merchandize shipped by the Company.		
				By Weight.	By Measure- ment.	Total.
				Tons	Tons	Tons
22	Ships taken up in	—	1765	7,667	2,866	10,533
24	—	—	1766	8,630	3,823	12,453
27	—	—	1767	8,288	3,779	12,067
32	—	—	1768	10,460	4,295	14,755
30	—	—	1769	11,425	4,043	15,468

*East India House, London,*  
24th April 1771.

*Chas. Tho. Coggan,*  
Clerk to the Committee of Shipping.

*Memorandum.* Exclusive of the above, the Tonnage of the Ship's Stores and Provisions, Private Trade to the Commander and Officers, Passengers Baggage, and Necessaries to Persons in *India*, amounts to 400 Tons each Ship.

*Chas. Tho. Coggan,*  
Clerk to the Committee of Shipping.





A

# R E P O R T

F R O M T H E

C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E X A M I N E

T H E S E V E R A L L A W S I N B E I N G

R E L A T I V E T O

The A S S I Z E o f B R E A D.

Reported on the Twenty-first Day of *December* 1772.



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A

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

# C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO EXAMINE

The several LAWS in being relative to the ASSIZE of BREAD.

*The 21<sup>st</sup> December 1772.*

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THE Committee appointed to examine the several Laws now in being relative to the Assize of Bread, and to report the same, together with their Opinion thereupon, to the House, have, in Obedience to the Orders of this House, examined all the Laws respecting the Assize of Bread.

They have also (as far as the Journals of the House could afford them Information) examined the Proceedings of this House on this Subject.

Your Committee have examined several Evidences, from the several Branches of this Business; viz. the Corn Factor, the Mealman, and the Baker. And

Your Committee do find, That from Time immemorial, and in all Times, to the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of *George* the Second, there was in all Assize Tables, made under the Law, a Wheaten Bread made of Flour the whole Produce of the Wheat, the said Flour weighing, at an Average, Three Fourths of the Weight of the Wheat whereof it was made.

Your Committee are informed, and do find, That such Flour doth contain the whole Nutrition or Sustainance of the Wheat; and that such is the best Medium Standard, and the most proper, which can be introduced for Bread in common Use.

That, in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of *George* the Second, an Act passed, intituled, "An Act for the due making of Bread, and to regulate the Price and Assize thereof, and to punish Persons who shall adulterate Meal, Flour, or Bread," wherein, amongst other Matters, it is directed, that, where an Assize shall be set, no other Sort or Sorts of Bread except the Wheaten and Household, as set in the Tables annexed

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to the said Act, should be made or sold, under a Penalty expressed in the said Act.

Which Sorts of Bread, although there be no specific Description of them in the said Act, nor any such Description to be collected from the said Tables, are holden forth to us to be made by a Division of the Flour (representing the whole Wheat) into Two Parts; the Wheaten Bread intended by that Act being supposed to be made of the finer Half, and the Household Bread to be made of the coarser Half.

That the Wheaten Bread made of the Flour (representing the whole of the Wheat) which had from Time immemorial been set and stood in all Assize Tables heretofore made, and was the Basis and Standard of all, was by this last mentioned Act excluded and prohibited from being made and sold.

Your Committee do find that this Act has never been, from the Time of passing the same, nor is at this Day, in actual Operation, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof: That the Flour is not in Fact so divided, nor the Bread so made as is described: That very little Household Bread whatsoever is made: That no Household Bread, such as is supposed and was intended by the Act, is made: That the Wheaten Bread which is made and sold, is not the Wheaten Bread intended by that Act.

That in Consequence of the old Standard Wheaten Bread being excluded, while the Law, directing other Sorts to be made, is found not to operate in Practice, great Confusions and many Inconveniences have arisen, and do exist; and amongst others, the Market hath been prevented from being supplied, in Times of

Scarcity,

Scarcity, with a Bread made of such Flour as the Law permitted to be imported for that Purpose.

That Your Committee, considering these Consequences and Effects of the quitting the old Medium Standard Wheaten Bread made as above described, do find, that if that Standard Bread made of Flour, which is the whole Produce of the Wheat, the said Flour weighing, on an Average, Three Fourths of the Weight of the Wheat whereof it is made, was again introduced, under certain Regulations and Restrictions, it would tend to prevent the said Confusions, and to remedy the said Inconveniences: And Your Committee find, That the Columns calculated for the Wheaten Bread, in the now repealed Assize Tables of the Act of the 8th of *Ann.* would be the proper Assize for the said Bread; and will have this further Benefit and Advantage, that when Wheat (the Baker's Allowance included) is at Seven Shillings the Bushel, the Wheaten Twelve-Peny Loaf of this Standard Bread would contain 7 lb. 7 oz. 3 dr. of Bread, whereas the Twelve-Peny Wheaten Loaf, according to the Assize of *George* the Second, doth contain only 6 lb. 8 oz. 4 dr. and so in the like Proportion.

Although Your Committee may apprehend that, within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and within the Markets dependant upon, and connected with the same, some Inconveniences might arise, if the Magistrate, whenever he should direct this Standard Wheaten Bread to be made, and to set an Assize thereon, should for the present be permitted to prohibit the Wheaten now in Use from being made and sold, or omit to set an Assize thereon: Yet they do not find, that, when and where, in any other Parts of the Kingdom, the Magistrate shall set an Assize upon, and direct this Standard Bread to be made, any Inconvenience could arise, if there was no Assize set for any Bread of a finer Sort, nor any such permitted to be made without

a Licence.—On the other Hand, they find that, in order not to enhance the Price of Bread upon any Persons who are used, or should be willing to be supplied with Bread of an inferior and cheaper Sort than the said Standard Bread, the Bakers shall be at Liberty to bake and sell the said inferior Sorts of Bread, provided they be restrained by severe Penalties from selling, at the Price of Standard Bread, any Bread which shall not come up to the full Standard in its Composition.

Upon the Whole, Your Committee came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved,*

That it is the Opinion of this Committee, That if the Magistrates were by Law permitted (when and where they shall think fit to set an Assize on Bread) to introduce again, under certain Regulations and Restrictions, the old Standard Bread made of Flour, which is the whole Produce of the Wheat, the said Flour weighing, on an Average, Three Fourths of the Weight of the Wheat whereof it is made, it would tend to prevent many Inconveniences which have arisen in the Assize and making of Bread for Sale.

*Resolved,*

That it is the Opinion of this Committee, That the Columns calculated for the Wheaten Bread, in the now repealed Tables of the Act of the 8th of *Queen Ann.* intituled, *An Act to regulate the Price and Assize of Bread.* would be the proper Assize for said Standard Wheaten Bread: And that the Twelve-Peny Loaf of this Standard Wheaten Bread, containing, the whole Flour of the Wheat (the said Flour weighing, on an Average, Three Fourths of the Weight of the said Wheat) would, upon a Medium, contain One Pound of Bread in Eight more than the Twelve-Peny Loaf of the present Wheaten Bread made under the Act of the 31st of *George* the Second.

A  
R E P O R T  
FROM THE  
C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO  
THE MANNER OF CONDUCTING  
THE SEVERAL  
A S S A Y O F F I C E S

I N  
LONDON, YORK, EXETER, BRISTOL, CHESTER,  
NORWICH, AND NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Reported on the Twenty-ninth Day of *April* 1773.

Together with an APPENDIX referred to in the said Report.



A

# R E P O R T

## FROM THE

# C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

The MANNER of conducting the ASSAY OFFICES,

*The 29th April 1773.*

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Manner of conducting the several Assay Offices in *London, York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester, Norwich, and Newcastle upon Tyne*, and the Manner in which Wrought Plate is assayed and marked; and also into the Frauds and Abuses that have been committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate and plated Work, and to examine and report the same, with their Observations thereupon, to the House; and to whom the Petition of several Goldsmiths, Silvermiths, or Plate Workers of the City of *London* and Places adjacent was referred; in order to discover in what Manner the several Assay Offices in *London, Chester, Exeter, and Newcastle upon Tyne* (being the only Assay Offices which they find are now kept up in this Kingdom) have been conducted, ordered the Assay Masters of those several Assay Offices to attend them, and severally to produce an Account of the Number of Goldsmiths, Silvermiths, and Plate Workers, Freeman of, and inhabiting within, the said Places, and who have served an Apprenticeship to the said Trade, that are now Members of each Company; and also an Account of the Names and Trades of the present Wardens and Assayers of each Company, and when, and at what Times, and by whom, they were respectively elected; and also an Account when and before whom each Assayer was sworn for the due Execution of his Office; and also an Account of the Names and Places of Abode of all the Goldsmiths, Silvermiths, and Plate Workers, now living, that have entered their Marks at each of the said Assay Offices; and also an Account of the Weight of all the Gold and Silver Plate assayed and marked at each Assay Office, for Seven Years last past; and also an Account of the Weight of all the Gold and Silver Plate broken and defaced at each Assay Office for Seven Years last past.

the Order of Your Committee; and have examined the said several Assay Masters, and other Persons, concerning the Method of conducting the said Offices, and making Assays; and have also proceeded to examine several Witnesses concerning the Frauds which they were directed by the House to enquire into; and in order to represent those several Matters in a clear and intelligible Manner to the House, Your Committee have thought proper to divide the same under the following Heads:

- 1st. The Method of conducting the Assay Office, and performing the Operation of Assays at Goldsmiths Hall in the City of *London*, and the Irregularities and Inconveniences attending that Office.
- 2d. The like at the Assay Office in *Chester*.
- 3d. The like at the Assay Office in *Exeter*.
- 4th. The like at the Assay Office in *Newcastle upon Tyne*.
- 5th. Frauds committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate, and plated Work, at *Birmingham and Sheffield*; under which is included the Evidence given in Support of the Petition before mentioned.
- 6th. Frauds committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate in *London*.
- 7th. Concerning the Standard Plate, and the Method of performing Assays by the King's Assay Master at the Mint.

The Method of conducting the Assay Office, and performing the Operation of Assays at Goldsmiths Hall, and the Irregularities and Inconveniences attending that Office.

Mr. *David Hume* (Deputy Warden of the Goldsmiths Company in *London*) informed Your Committee, That there are at the said Office Two Weighers, Four Drawers, and Two Assayers: That it is the Duty of the Weighers to take in the Plate with the Notes thereof, and receive the Prices for assaying and marking, and to see that the same is in a proper State of Workmanship for assaying and marking, and

THAT Your Committee have been attended by the said several Assay Masters, and have received the Accounts which they produced in Obedience to

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and not charged with too much Solder; and if they find it in a proper State, they deliver it to the Drawers, whose Duty it is likewise to examine the same, and to scrape or cut off proper Quantities from each Piece for the Assay, and then deliver such Scrapings and Cuttings to the Assayers: That if the Weighers or Drawers suspect any fraudulent Practices, in order to obtain the Company's Mark to counterfeit Wares, they acquaint the Assayers or Deputy Warden therewith, who divide the Parcel into as many Lots as there appears Sorts of Silver in it, and direct the Drawers to take a proper Quantity from each Lot for a separate Assay; the Assayers, by making these separate Assays, frequently find that some of those Lots are better, and others worse, than Standard; and if so, they break or deface the Whole.

That the Drawers mark all the Plate which is reported to be Standard with the Company's Marks, and deliver it to the Weighers, who return it to the Owners; but break all Plate which is found worse than Standard.

That the Assayers also examine the Plate, in order to see that each Piece is marked with the Maker's Mark, and that the Drawers have properly taken off the Quantities for the Assays, and then assay the same, and make their Reports to the Deputy Warden, who directs all the Plate to be marked with the Company's Mark that appears to be Standard; but that which is reported doubtful is retained in the Office, and re-assayed the next Day; and if found to be Standard is marked, and if not, broke and defaced.

That the Deputy Warden attends in the Forenoon, to see that each Parcel of Plate is in proper Order, and marked with the Maker's known Mark, and attends again in the Afternoon to receive the Assayers Reports, the Weight of the Plate assayed, and the Diet thereon at One Grain per Pound, and the Assay Pieces; that he locks up the Diet and Assay Pieces in Boxes, delivers out the Company's Marks to the Drawers, and sees them mark such Plate as is reported Standard: That the Diet is carefully tried annually in May before all the Assilants of the Company, being of the Mystery, in the same Manner as the Pix of the Coin is tried. And being asked, Whether there was any Check upon the Report of the Assayers? he said, There was not.

That the Warden keeps a Part of the Diet (One Grain in every Pound) which he receives upon the Credit of the Assayer: That the Witness had known upwards of 50 Pounds Weight of Plate, in various Articles, sent by one Workman at one Time to be assayed, and that when a Number of Articles are sent together, it is usual to take the Scrapings or Cuttings from each Piece, and from all the Parts that compose that Piece, and apprehends they can always avoid taking any Solder: That all Parts of Watch Cases should be made of the same Standard, but sometimes they are not, and that some Scrapings are taken from the Wires of Watch Cases.

That if Plate has the Appearance of being of different Fineness, the Method is, to scrape from each Part in due Proportion; that he can be a Check upon the Scrapers to see that they take it from proper Parts, by observing the Plate after it is scraped, but cannot observe the Quantities drawn from each Part; that the whole Scrapings or Diet is melted down into One Mals, without any Flux, before the Assay is made from it.

That Mr. Swift and Mr. Slade, his Predecessors in Office, both followed the Trade of a Goldsmith or Silversmith at the Time they were Wardens; but the Witness said, It was insisted by the Company, previous to his Election to the Office of Warden, that he should leave off the Business of a Plate Worker.

Mr. Fendal Rybsforth (Senior Assay Master of the Goldsmiths Company in London) in Obedience to the Orders of Your Committee, produced the several Accounts contained in the Appendix hereunto annexed,

N<sup>o</sup> 1, and confirmed Mr. Hennell's Evidence, as to making the Assays on Plate, and reporting the same, and delivering the Diet to the Wardens, and making the annual Trial thereof; and added, That the Diet is annually melted down into Ingots in Two Divisions, One for each Assayer, which is kept separate: That a double Assay is taken from each; that the Senior Assayer tries the Junior's, and the Junior the Senior's, in the Presence of the Court of Assilants of the Craft: That they have a Touch Plate, or Standard Piece, which they likewise take a double Assay from, and try them both in the same Manner as they try the Diet: That the Method of Trial is to put an equal Weight of the Standard Piece and of the Diet into the Fire; and if they come out equal in Goodness, they are Standard.

Being asked, Whether any Body is present when the Scrapings are taken from the Diet? he said, It is done by the Drawers; that he is present as much as he can, as is also the Junior Assayer; but there are Times when neither of them see the Scrapings taken: That the Assayer has the Custody of the Scrapings till they are put into the Diet Box, and till the Marking Business is over, which is generally about Five o'Clock, when he delivers the Diet to the Warden, who puts it into the Diet Box, and keeps the Key.—The Witness confirmed the Evidence of Mr. Hennell, as to the Warden's superintending the Work, and seeing that the Plate was properly marked.

Being asked, Whether any Persons were allowed to be present while the Assay was made? he answered, No, we have each of us a separate Cloiset for the Purpose: That the Assayer delivers in Writing the Person's Name whose Plate is deficient in Goodness, and the Proof, which is entered in a Book kept for that Purpose, called "The Broken Book."

The Witness also confirmed Mr. Hennell's Evidence, as to the Assayer's Duty to examine the Plate, and to see that the Scrapings are properly taken, and the Owner's Mark put upon it; and further added, That the Diet is delivered by the Assayer to the Warden; and if the Assayers were to change the Diet, it would be impossible to detect them.

That when Plate comes to the Office so thin, that a sufficient Quantity cannot be drawn off for the Diet, a sufficient Quantity is taken for the Assay, and One Grain Diet; and that the Piece sent as Diet is to make up the Deficiency: That there is a Distinction between the Warden's Diet and the Company's Diet, or Reward for assaying and marking Wrought Plate; the One Grain Diet is the Warden's Diet, and the other Three Grains Diet is cut to weigh the small Wares for the Day, which pay in Money for being marked, and are returned the same Weight they are sent to the Office: That the Four Grains are taken from the large Plate, as the Reward for assaying and marking; that the One Grain Diet is taken from the Plate itself, and put into the Diet Box.

That the Method of assaying Silver alloyed with Copper is by Lead and Fire upon a Coppel made of Bone Ashes; and that as to the Quantity of Lead, it depends upon the Operation, and the Judgment of the Assayer.

That upon making the annual Trial of the Diet, they melt the Scrapings down with a small Flux of Salt Petre to clear the Surface, and then cast the same into an Ingot; that the Scrapings are weighed before they are melted into an Ingot, and the Ingot weighed afterwards, and believes those Weights are entered in a Book for that Purpose, but is not certain; that the Trial of the Diet in May is the Check upon the Assay Master; it does not prove any particular Person's Plate, but only shews that Standard has been passed all the Year.

Mr. George Fair (Clerk of the Goldsmiths Company) informed Your Committee of the Method of making the annual Trials of the Diet in May, to the same Effect as Mr. Rybsforth; and added, that from the Ingots double Assays are made, and compared with the Standard



Standard Trial Piece, and Reports made as the Trials turn out; that Persons detected of producing Plate under Standard, besides having their Plate broken, are not liable to any other Punishment, unless they are detected in concealing Solder, or other base Metals, for which they may be prosecuted under the Statute of 28th Edward the 1st, Statute 3d, Cap. 20, of which there have been many Instances.

Mr. Richard Collins (Fireman and Drawer at Goldsmiths Hall) being examined, said, That he takes an Oath annually before a Master in Chancery, and has officiated in that Office for 17 Years; that Part of his Business is to get the Furnaces ready in the Morning, and put the Assays in, and to attend the Fire, melt the Diet, and put the Assays into the Coppels at the annual Trial; that he takes the Scrapings wrapt in Lead from the Assayer, puts them into the Fire, and works them off, then takes them out and delivers them to the Assayer to be re-weighed, and the Assayer makes his Report from that Re-weighing; and that he never delivers to the Assayer any Silver except Scrapings and Cuttings.

That he takes the Scrapings from the Plate, and knows the Name of the Silversmith whose Plate he scrapes, at the Time of scraping it; and if a Drawer was inclined to favour any Silversmith, he knows of no Means to detect him; and if he should give finer Silver to the Assayer than that which he takes from the Plate, the Assayer would be deceived thereby: That there are Three more Scrapers employed at Goldsmiths Hall, besides himself, in the same Office, at about Four or Five Yards Distance from each other, but can see what each other is doing: That the Deputy Warden and Assayers overlook the Plate every Morning, to see that it has been properly drawn, but the Assayers are not always officially present when the Plate is drawn or scraped, being often employed in other Business: That neither the Warden nor Deputy Warden are constantly present when the Scrapings are taken, but the Deputy Warden attends an Hour or Two every Morning, and again about Two o'Clock in the Afternoon; so that neither the Assayer, nor either of the Wardens, can declare with Certainty that the Scrapings delivered to them are taken from the Plate from which it ought to have been scraped, and if a Scraper or Drawer was to take away Part of the Drawings or Scrapings from any Piece of Plate, it could not be discovered, except by the weighing the Plate in the Evening, when a Deficiency of Weight would appear if more had been taken off than was necessary: That the Drawer wraps up the Scrapings in a Piece of Paper, with the Person's Name upon it from whose Plate it was taken, and delivers it to the Assayer, who wraps it up in Lead: That the Plate from which the Scrapings are taken, is weighed by one of the Weighers, and the Weight put down on Paper, together with the Name of the Owner.

That the annual Diet is tried on the 28th of May, before a Committee of Nine or Ten, in Manner following; it is first weighed by some of the Committee, then the Witness puts it into the melting Pots in their Presence; every Assay Master's Diet is melted by itself, and then weighed; when it is melted down, a Piece is taken off, and that Piece is assayed; a small Quantity of Salt Petre (about a Pennyweight or a little more) is used as a Flux in the Melting Pots, with the Diet Silver, which has been the Practice for about Six Years, by Order of the Committee; and the Witness believes that Quantity of Flux would not make the Silver better than it was. That when the Diet Silver is melted, it is poured into Ingots, from which the Assay Master cuts off a Bit from the Corner, in order to be assayed, which is done and weighed in the Assay Master's Closet in the Presence of the Committee: That there are Twelve Assays put in that Day, and the Operations are the same in Gold as Silver, except that no Flux is used in melting the Gold Diet; and that the Flux of Salt Petre is

only used to clear the Scurf: That the Assayers generally take the Assays out of the Furnace, because the Witness is otherwise employed; but when he is not otherwise employed, he does it; and when the Assay of coarse Silver wants more Lead, the Assay Master always puts it in.

Mr. Peter Floyer (a Refiner, in Love Lane, Woodstreet, and Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths Company) informed Your Committee, That if One Pound of the Silver Scrapings, in the Diet Box, at Goldsmiths Hall, was to be melted without a Flux, and with no more Force of Fire than was necessary, he supposed there would be little or no Alteration made in the Fineness of the Silver; but if there was more Fire than was necessary, or it continued longer in the Fire, the Alloy would burn, and by Length of Time a considerable Part of the Alloy would be waisted.

That if One Pound of Scrapings from the Diet Box at Goldsmiths Hall was to be melted with Salt Petre, as a Flux, for a proper Length of Time, he could make the Silver 3 or 4 dwt. finer; but said, It would be a very wrong Way of working; and did not apprehend the Alloy in Scrapings would burn sooner than that which is contained in solid Silver.

Mr. Samuel Smith (a Warden of the Goldsmiths Company) produced an Account of Plate, broke at Goldsmiths Hall, from May 1771 to May 1772, distinguishing each Person's Name, and Quantity;—and also an Account of Prosecutions carried on by the said Company against Persons for Frauds in Gold and Silver Plate, within Seven Years last past; which are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 2.

Mr. William Hancock (of Sheffield) informed Your Committee, That his Work had been injured at Goldsmiths Hall, by scraping; and believes the Scrapers may shew Favour in Scraping, where they think fit; for by the Advice of his Polisher, in October or November last, he went to Goldsmiths Hall, and gave some Drink to the Assay Master and Scraper, since which he has observed his Plate has been less damaged in scraping: That he sends a Piece of Silver with his Work to the Office, as Diet, proportioned to the Weight of the Work; and that his Work was never returned unscraped.—That whilst he was in the Hall he had an Opportunity of seeing a great deal of manufactured Plate, of different Sorts and Patterns; that he never complained to the Warden or Clerk of the Goldsmiths Company of any Damage done to his Plate; that he always sends his Work to the Office properly finished for assaying; but not so nearly finished as to require any extraordinary Care in the scraping; and that he never knew or heard of any Pattern being taken off at the Assay Office.

Mr. Albion Cox (a Refiner at Sheffield) informed Your Committee, That he had received from Mr. Bernard Holbrook some Assay Bits, which had been returned to him as fine Silver, from Assays made at Goldsmiths Hall; that they did not appear to him as fine Silver; and, upon sending them to a private Assay Master, they were reported only 14 dwt. better than Standard.

That some Spoons, which had been broke at Goldsmiths Hall for being 2 dwt. worse than Standard, were brought to the House where he was an Apprentice, and some Bits were cut from the same, and sent to Goldsmiths Hall to be assayed again; when the Report upon that Assay was 4½ dwt. worse than Standard; and he has no Doubt, if a Piece of Plate of 100 Ounces was sent to Goldsmiths Hall to be assayed, that was only 11 Ounces fine, but it would have passed before this Enquiry began; and that if a Purchaser of the same Plate, when finished, scraped a little therefrom, and sent it to Goldsmiths Hall to be assayed, that it would be reported full 4 dwt. worse than Standard.

That about Four Years ago he many Times bought Silver of a Drawer or Scraper belonging to Goldsmiths Hall,

Hall, melted into Ingots of about 17 to £. 20 Value; and judged them to be Scrapings or Cuttings, from his coming at unreasonable Hours; they being generally brought in the Evening, or betimes in the Morning; and from his concealing them in a secret Manner; for if there were other Persons in the Shop, he waited till they were gone; that the Witnesses never asked the Scraper any Questions, as his Master was generally present, and they were well known to each other, and had been Fellow Apprentices together, as the Witnesses believe; that he had bought Silver in this Manner Ten or Twelve Times, or more; that the first Time was more than Ten Years since, and the last Time about Four Years since; that the Silver so purchased was entered in a Book, called The Bought Stock Book, and the Scraper never told him how he came by it.

The Witnesses further informed Your Committee, That it is as nice a Part as any of the Skill of a Refiner, to know exactly when to draw the Crucible of melted Silver from the Fire, as a greater or less Degree of Heat would have considerable Effect; that if Scrapings of Silver were to be melted without any Flux, he believes not less than One Pennyweight in a Pound of the Alloy would be wasted by their being exposed to the Fire; though Silver in a solid State might not lose above half a Pennyweight; and that there is not a Possibility of melting Scrapings of Silver with a Flux of Salt Petre, without losing a considerable Part of the Alloy; and that by this Operation Silvermiths make their coarse Silver better than Standard, and Refiners thereby make fine Silver; that a small Quantity of Salt Petre, but sufficient to fuse small Pieces of Scrapings, will certainly make a Difference in the Fineness of the Silver.

Mr. Joseph Clark (an Assayer Master, in Gutter Lane) informed Your Committee, That he has assayed Plate which had the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall upon it, that was 2 dwts. worse than Standard, but never more to his Knowledge; though he has known Instances, through the hurry of Business, of Work being sent thither within Twelve Months last past, and marked before the private Assay has come out; and that by the private Assay that Work was in One Case 5, and in another 7 dwts. worse than Standard; and he has known Work pass at Goldsmiths Hall One Day, and cut the next Day, though both came out of the same Pot; but in his Assays he never found any Difference upon making Two different Assays out of the same Pot.

That as Work is broke at Goldsmiths Hall, if found under Standard, it is usual for People in Trade, before they make any Piece of Work, to send their Metal to be assayed by private Assayers, for their own Satisfaction and Security; and apprehends it would answer no Purpose to the Workman to send an Assay to a private Assayer to be tried, unless it was taken out of the same Pot from which the Plate was made; and thinks Silver may be better for melting, but not so much as 2 dwts. in the Pound without Fluxes.

Mr. Francis Spilbury (a Silvermith in Gutter Lane) informed Your Committee, That he was Apprentice to the Trade, and is a Member of the Goldsmiths Company; that he has frequently been at Goldsmiths Hall; and that an ingenious Workman, by being admitted there, could have an Opportunity of seeing new Patterns, which might be of great Advantage to him; that he is very well acquainted with the Methods in which Business is conducted there, and that there are no Checks established to prevent Impositions on the Public.

That if the Drawers or Scrapers had Inclination, they have an Opportunity of delivering to the Assayer better Silver than they scrape from the Work.

That the Assayer has an Opportunity of wrapping in Lead what Scrapings he pleases, to put upon the Copels, which he delivers to the Fireman, who burns them

off; and the Fireman has an Opportunity of misleading the Assayer, by putting a little Silver into any Coppel he may think proper; and as the Standard Mark is put upon Silver by the Report of the Assayer alone, whether it be Standard or not, he has an Opportunity to favour any Silvermith, if he was inclined to do it; and if the Assayer was inclined to put finer Scrapings into the Diet Box than he received from the Scraper or Drawer, there is no Check to prevent his doing so.

Being asked, Whether, if the Diet was faithfully composed of the Silver Scrapings actually taken from the Plate which had been marked, it would, by melting without any Flux at the annual Trial, unavoidably become finer, and whether it was not very easy in that Operation, by too much Heat, or by applying Salt Petre, to make the Diet Silver finer?—he said, That all Silver by melting refines, and the smaller the Particles are, the more it will refine; and by the Addition of a Flux of Salt Petre it might be made 12 dwts. better than Standard; but if Borax was used as a Flux, it would protect the Alloy better than Salt Petre, as it keeps it from burning away, and preserves the Silver in a more fluid State; and added, That what Silver gains in Fineness by melting, it loses in Weight.

This Witness further informed Your Committee, that he had been several Times at Goldsmiths Hall to treat the Workmen with Drink; and thinks it of Consequence to be upon good Terms with the Scrapers, as they have a Power of shewing Favour in passing Work; for when his Plate has been objected to, he has known those Difficulties removed by giving Liquor at the Hall; that his Work has been sometimes broke, but not within the last Three or Four Years.

That he had assayed 11 oz. 2 dwts. of fine Silver, with 18 dwts. of Copper, and upon assaying the same, it proved 2 dwts. worse than Standard, though the Silver appeared to him to be fine; that he has assayed Silver, called fine Silver, but never found it more than 16 dwts. better than Standard, which would make it 11 oz. 18 dwts. and imagined such Silver was the purest that could be made; and knows of no other Operation than by Lead to discharge all the Alloy from Silver.

#### Method of Conducting the Assay Office at Chester.

Mr. John Scafebrick (Assay Master of Chester, and a Jeweller) informed Your Committee, that there is a Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers at Chester, which consists of Two Wardens and about Eight other Members;—and produced, pursuant to the Order of Your Committee, the several Accounts annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 3.—And said, That he never made any Entries of, nor took any Diet from, Plate that proved worse than Standard; but upon his Report of it to the Wardens, it was defaced and returned to the Owners; that he cannot recollect the Quantity of Plate broke since he has been in the Office, but about a Month ago, One Dozen of Watch Cases, that came from Liverpool to be assayed, were broke; and that he has broke other Kinds of Plate about a Year or Two ago, which belonged to a Silvermith in Chester; that he is paid for Plate which is broke and defaced, the same Prices as if it was Standard, according to Act of Parliament, and enters such Payments in a Book; but no Entry is made of Plate broken.

The Witnesses further informed Your Committee, that the Plate which has been sent by Messrs. Boulton and Fothergill, of Sobo, near Birmingham, to be assayed and marked at the Chester Office, has generally been 2 or 3 dwts. above Standard, and that he never received any Plate from the said Boulton and Fothergill which was under Standard.—That he calls 11 oz. 2 dwts. Standard, and 11 oz. 1 dwts. or any thing under 11 oz. 2 dwts. under Standard; and never received any Plate in his Time from Birmingham or Sheffield that was under Standard.

Being asked, If he had any Assistant in the Office? — he answered, When I am not well, I have a Person whose Name is *Farmer*, and who assisted *Mr. Richardson*, my Predecessor; that *Farmer* was not a sworn Officer, neither was he appointed by the Company.

That the Witness served his Apprenticeship with *Alderman Richardson*, the late Assay Master, and that the Assay Office is at *Alderman Richardson's* House, where all the Utensils remain; that he never knew an Instance of several Things, in One Parcel of Plate sent to be assayed, that were made of different Sorts of Silver as to Fineness; and that when there are a great Number of Pieces, he scrapes some off most or all of them, and assays them all together; that he never knew an Instance of Buckles worse than Standard, having Pieces of Silver soldered to them in order to obtain the Company's Marks; and believes he could very safely swear they were all as they were cast.

Being asked his Method of Drawing? he answered, If Pieces come, from which I can cut off Bits, I cut them off; but if there are no Pieces fit for cutting, I scrape them with a sharp Scraper, I then take an Assay Weight, called 12 Ounces, but which is about 17 Grains, and weigh as much of such Cuttings or Scrapings as are equal to the 12 Ounces, which is then wrapped in Lead, and when the Furnace and Coppels are hot enough, the Assay is put in and refined, but no Flux is used, because the Lead refines it; if it comes out 11 oz. 2 dw. fine Silver, we mark it with the Lion, the Leopard's Head, the City Arms (being Three Lions and a Wheat Sheaf) and the Letter for the Year, the Letter for the present Year is U.—Sometimes we pals it at 11 Ounces, but when only 11 Ounces, I write to the Owners, and give them a Caution to take Care another Time.

The Witness said he wrote to some Silvermiths at *Liverpool*, whose Plate was full 11 Ounces, not long since, and had done so to others; and his Intentions were not to pals it again if they had sent it only 11 Ounces fine, but they took Care to mend their Silver.

That if there is a great deal more Solder than necessary upon Watch Cases, and they were melted down into One Mass, the Standard of such Silver would be reduced in Proportion to the Quantity of Solder, because Solder has One Third of Alloy in it; and believes Solder may be added to Silver Wares after they are assayed; that he knows nothing of the Solder necessary for Tankards, because he is not acquainted with Tankards, having never marked or assayed any; and never returned any Silver Wares for having apparently too much Solder.

That he marks the Plate after it is assayed, if it proves Standard, and keeps the Marks locked up.

That the late *Mr. Richardson* was a Manufacturer of Silver at the Time he was Assayer, and generally kept Two or Three People at Work in that Manufacture; and that *Farmer* (who sometimes assays for the Witness, when sick or out of Town) worked for *Mr. Richardson* near Thirty Years, and assayed and marked his Plate; that the Witness never heard of *Mr. Richardson's* Plate being objected to as under Standard; and believes it was not in the Power of any Man living to object to it, as there never was better Silver worked; that it was oftener above Standard than under, and that he had tried it, and found it so himself; and never found any of *Mr. Richardson's* Plate under Eleven Ounces.

That the Witness works a little in the jewellery Way; but never worked above Ten or Twelve Ounces since he has been in that Trade; that he has no fixed Salary as Assay Master; his Profit arises from the Prices allowed by Act of Parliament, which never amounted to £. 10 in any One Year.

That he doth not assay the Lead before he puts the Silver in it, because he uses Litharidge Lead, which has had all the Silver taken out of it; and although it may happen, that by an overstrong Blast upon the Test some of the Silver may be blown over with the Litha-

ridge, yet the Quantity is so small, that it would make very little Difference.

That he takes Ten Grains upon every Pound of Silver which he puts into the Diet Box, besides which he is paid for the Assay; because it is the Custom of the Town, and allowed by Act of Parliament.

That the Diet never was sent to the Tower to be assayed, nor was ever required by the Lord Chancellor, or any Body else, in the Witness's Time.—Being asked, What Quantity of Diet there was now in the Office at *Chester*? he said, He could not tell; for when he wanted Silver he had taken some out.

That he has tried all his Assay Weights, down to the Pennyweight, and they all bear a due Proportion; and that he has a Halfpenny Weight.

That he never met with any Silver alloyed with Tin, and imagines it would not be malleable enough to bear the Hammer, but would be too brittle.—Upon being asked, How he knew when Silver was sufficiently assayed? he answered, We know by the Assay; it has first a Cap over it, then that works off in various Colours; and after that it grows quite bright, and then we know all the Lead is worked away; we always use a sufficient Quantity of Lead.

Method of conducting the Assay Office at *Exeter*.

*Mr. Mathew Skinner* Assay Master of the Goldsmiths Company of *Exeter* (produced, pursuant to the Order of Your Committee, the several Accounts annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 4; and informed Your Committee, That Two of the Members of the Goldsmiths Company of *Exeter* are not Freemen of the City of *Exeter*, but follow the Trade of Goldsmiths, and that all the other Members are; that all the Members inhabit within the City; and that Two of them served only a Part of their Apprenticeships.

That he took an Oath before *Benjamin Heath*, Town Clerk, which was not the Oath directed by Act of Parliament; but thinks it was as binding as that in the Act; that he is guided in his Duty by an Act passed in the Reign of King *William* the Third; that he has heard of the said Act from Time to Time, but never read it until he had received an Order to attend Your Committee.

That he never received Instruction from any Man living how to assay; but when he had purchased the Lantern, the Scales, and all the other Implements necessary for assaying, from the late Assay Master, he then made various Experiments by Coppellation and Fire; that he believes his Assay Pound weighs about 13 or 14 Grains; that he has compared all his Assay Weights, and found that they all bore a due Proportion to each other; that his smallest Weight is a Halfpenny Weight; and that he never made an Assay of Gold in his Life.

That after Silver is assayed, if it is Half a Pennyweight better or worse than Standard, he reports it as such, but has no Assay Tables: That he gets his Bone Ashes from Town to make Coppels, and makes as many at One Time as serve him for Half a Year: That his Muffles are Eight Inches long, are arched, and have Holes in the Sides to give Air while the Metal is in Fusion: That he does not make them himself; and that they will hold from Six to Nine Coppels: That he assays his Silver with Lead, which he receives from an Assay Master in *London*, whom he can confide in.

Being desired to describe his Method of assaying Silver; he said, I take a small Quantity of Silver from each Piece (the Quantity allowed by Act of Parliament is Eight Grains from every Pound Troy Weight) which I weigh by the Assay Pound Weight; I wrap it up in a thin Sheet of Lead, and when the Furnace is properly heated, the Assays are put in and fired off; they are taken out when cool, and then weighed; and from the Waste we ascertain its Goodness.

That no Officer is employed by the Company in assaying Plate besides himself; that he has no Salary, and takes what Silver is allowed by Law for assaying; that he was brought up a Jeweller, and is no Ways concerned in the manufacturing of Plate, but buys all his Plate from *London*.

That the Standard for Plate is 11 oz. 2 dwt. of fine Silver, and 18 dwt. of Alloy; but they allow a Remedy of 2 dwt. in the Pound, because it would be hard upon a working Tradesman, if he was not allowed something, as he does his best, and may be mistaken; that many Times he had allowed it, and sometimes had found it over Standard.

Being asked, If the Trade of a working Goldsmith, Silvermith, or Plate Worker, was necessary for qualifying a Person for scraping or cutting Wrought Plate properly? he said, He thought a Person bred to those Trades the best qualified to know if all the Plate in One Parcel be of the same Sort of Silver, and whether the Plate is forward enough in Workmanship, but that he had acquired that Knowledge without being brought up to the Business, so as to be able to judge; and further said, He thought great Judgment was necessary to know all the Pieces that were affixed together in a Piece of Plate, such as a Sword Hilt, or an Epergne, and thinks it impossible for an Assay Master to judge of the Solder necessary for joining a Piece of Work, unless he was brought up to the Trade of a Silvermith.

That the Makers of Wrought Plate send a Note with their Names to the Assay Office, containing the Name of the Owner, the Weight of the Silver, and what Articles it consists of: That he receives a Halfpenny per Ounce for assaying and marking such Plate, which is entered in a Book particularizing the Day of the Month when the Plate was assayed, the Name of the Owner, the Species of Plate, and if cut, he enters the Workmens.

That he has heard of Convoys, which are intended by Workmen to deceive the Assayer; that he examines the Work as near as he can, but never found out any such Thing as Convoys.

That the Marks he strikes upon Wrought Plate are the Lion, the Leopard's Head, the *Exeter* Mark (which is a Castle) and the Letter for the Year; that the Letter for the present Year is Z, in Roman Character; that the Letter is appointed annually at the first Hall Meeting after the 7th of *August*, and goes through the whole Alphabet, and that A will be the Letter for the next Year.

That the Workman sets his own Mark before the Plate is sent to the Office; that the Witness has the Custody of the Marks, and if Plate is doubtful upon the first Assay, he detains it for a second Trial; that he puts Four Grains of Silver into the Diet Box for every Pound Weight of Plate he assays and marks; that there are Three Locks and Two Keys to the Diet Box, One Lock being spoiled; and the Senior Warden, who has the Custody of the Diet Box, keeps One of the Keys, and the Junior Warden the other; that the Diet is put into the Box once a Year, on the 7th of *August*, being first wrapped up in Paper, and marked what Year's Diet it is, and the Witness has the Custody of it until it is put into the Box; and knows not when it was sent to the Tower; and that there are many Years Diet now in the Office.

That he makes the Assays of Plate at such Times as best suit his Convenience, and never had any Person to assist him in assaying; and when he is absent or ill the Thing stops.

That he thinks the Trust too great to be reposed in One Man, and apprehends such a Hall as Goldsmiths Hall, is safer to the Public, where there are so many Checks, and no Temptation to Dishonestly, the Officers having good Salaries; and he should prefer Plate marked at Goldsmiths Hall, because of the Sanction; that some Years ago he assayed Plate marked at Goldsmiths Hall, out of Curiosity, and found it Standard.

That he has been at Goldsmiths Hall, and seen the Progress of Business there; and has used the Remedy he has spoken of ever since he has been in the Office.

#### Method of conducting the Assay Office at *Newcastle upon Tyne*.

Mr. *Matthew Prior* (a musical and mathematical Instrument Maker and Turner, Assay Master of the Goldsmiths Company of *Newcastle upon Tyne*) produced, pursuant to the Orders of Your Committee, the several Accounts annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 5; and informed Your Committee, that upon his being elected to the Office of Assay Master, he took an Oath prescribed by the Act of King *William the Third*, and is guided in his Duty by that Act.

That he had attended the Assay Office for his Father, who was Assay Master many Years before he died, and that the Company had often seen him make Assays for his Father.

He also produced to Your Committee his Assay Weights, and said he bought them in *London*; that he had weighed them to see if they bore a due Proportion, and had tried them with Reports of Assays of Silver made in *London*, and found they agreed to about a Pennyweight; and that the lowest Subdivision in his Reports is Half a Pennyweight.

That he makes his Assays upon Coppels made of Bone Ashes, which he prepares himself several Months before he uses them;—That his Muffles are of the same Size and Form as those made in *London*, and made of the same Sort of Clay that *Glashouse* Pots are made of, and will hold about 21 Coppels; That he assays Two Days a Week; That he puts refined Lead with the Silver into the Coppel in order to make the Assay, and assays the Lead before he uses it, but never found any Silver in it.

Being desired to describe his Method of assaying Silver—he said, We scrape a Quantity of Silver from every Part of the Vessel that comes to the Office; we weigh that in the Assay Scales very exactly with the Twelve Ounce Weight; we then add a Quantity of fine Lead to the Assay, put it upon a Coppel, and refine it to fine Silver; when it is fine we draw it out of the Fire, and weigh it with 11 oz. 2 dwt. and if it weighs that, we call it Standard, though we pass it at 11 oz.; it has been the Practice of the Office to allow a Remedy of Two Pennyweight; that the *London* Office does the same, and it is an Indulgence which has always been allowed; and that he never made use of any other Flux but Lead in assaying Silver. And being asked, If he used any other Flux than Lead in the assaying of Gold? he said, Yes, *Aqua Fortis*, fine Silver, and Lead.

He also informed Your Committee, That One or both of the Wardens always attend on the Two assaying Days, which are *Tuesdays* and *Fridays*, from Nine in the Morning till the Assaying is over, and that they sometimes assist him; that the Scrapings are taken off, the Assays made, and the Plate marked, in the Presence of the Wardens; that he has no fixed Salary, but is paid One Halfpenny an Ounce for all the Plate which comes to be assayed, by the Owners of it.

Being asked, If the Knowledge of the Trade of a Working Goldsmith, or Plate Worker, was necessary to qualify a Person for scraping or cutting Wrought Plate properly? he said, He imagined it was; but also said, That an Assayer not brought up to the Trade of a Silvermith might judge whether all the Plate in One Parcel was of One Sort of Silver, and might know whether Plate was forward enough in the Workmanship for assaying, and whether loaded with unnecessary Solder, as well as if he had been brought up to the Trade; and that by the Practice he has had at the Assay Office he has learnt to examine every visible Part of the Plate very nicely.

That

That the Makers of Wrought Plate send a Note with each Parcel of Plate, which is entered in a Book kept for that Purpose, called "The Assay Book."

That he never heard of Convoys; but has known in the same Parcel some Plate better, and some worse, than Standard, but knows not whether it was from Fraud or Mistake. Being asked, What Method he took, when he suspected that some Plate in a Parcel was better and some worse, to prevent the Company Marks being obtained? he said, That he made a different Assay of all the Pieces he suspected, and has done so for many Years.

That when all the Pieces in One Parcel appear to be of One Sort of Silver, he takes a small Quantity from every Piece, as much as will make an Assay; that when Plate appears under Standard he sometimes re-assays it, and has re-assayed Plate Three Times, in order to satisfy the Owner; that he puts Four Marks upon the Plate, viz. The Lion, the Leopard's Head, the Three Castles, and the Letter for the Year; and that the Letter for the present Year is D; that these Marks are kept in a Box which has Three Locks upon it; that the Wardens keep each of them a Key at their own Houses, and the Witness keeps the other in his Pocket, and the Box cannot be unlocked without producing the Three Keys; that the Diet (which is Eight Grains from every Pound of Silver that is marked) is kept in the same Box; and all the Diet, except Two or Three Ounces, is taken out of the Box every Year by the Wardens, and appropriated to defray the Expence of the Office; and that the Company thought Two or Three Ounces a sufficient Quantity to be kept.

That the Diet in the Office remains in its original State, as Scrapings and Cuttings from the Plate, and he never knew any of it to be assayed, nor does he remember the Diet Box ever to have been sent, or required by the Lord Chancellor to be sent, to the Mint; that he knows nothing of the annual Weight of the Diet, but the Wardens do, as they keep an Account of it in a Book kept for that Purpose;—that there are Scrapings now in the Office taken in several Years, but are mixed together.

The Witness further said, That there never was an Assay made at Newcastle by any other Person than himself, since he was appointed Assay Master; that the Office is kept in a private House; that there are in it Two Assay Furnaces, and a Pair of Scales, so exact that a Hair off the Back of his Hand will turn them either Way.

Frauds committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate and Plated Work, at Birmingham and Sheffield.

Mr. Ruffsorth produced a Box of Watch Cases, sent from a Silvermith at Birmingham in February last, the Box Wires of which, the Witness said, were 2 oz. 4 dwts. worse than Standard; the Case Wires, 2 oz. 3 dwts. worse than Standard; and the Case Covers, 1 oz. 3 dwts. worse; but the Bottoms were Half a Penny-weight better than Standard;—That he had discovered many Frauds of the same Nature in London, but not so bad as those; and had once before, from the same Workman in Birmingham, some Articles of a similar Nature, but not so bad; that he remembers an Instance of a plated Tumbler being brought to the Office in order to be assayed, which was discovered by the Drawers, who communicated it to him, and he sent the Warden an Account of it, who sent for the Party from whom it came; but there was no Prosecution upon it, as it appeared to have been sent by Mistake or Accident.

Mr. William Hancock informed Your Committee,

That the Tumbler mentioned by Mr. Ruffsorth was sent by the Witness to a Silvermith in London, with Six others that were all Silver, in order to be Hall marked, and the Plated one was put among the others by Mistake; That all the Seven were kept at Goldsmiths Hall until the Witness came to Town, who was requested to attend the Office, and explain in what Manner the Mistake arose; which he apprehends he did to the Satisfaction of the Assay Officers, as they delivered the Silver Tumblers back to him, having first marked them; and that the Witness has made many plated Tumblers since that Time; That the Tumbler was tinned upon the Edge, which made it more resembling Silver, but marked in the same Manner as plated Work is marked; that they were packed up in a Hurry, and in their Letter to the Person to whom they were sent, they mentioned only Six, and imagines he took up the first Six that came to his Hands, and sent them; and that the plated Tumbler, in Size and Shape, resembled One of the Silver Ones.

Mr. John Carter (a Manufacturer of large Plate, in Bartholomew Close, London) informed Your Committee, That he employed a Snuffler Maker at Birmingham, to make some Snufflers, and had received a great many Dozen from him; that One Pair of those Snufflers, which the Witness had sold, being afterwards broke, was sent to a London Manufacturer to be repaired, who discovered that they were in a very great Degree Iron plated with Silver; and upon weighing them, it appeared there was 12 dwts. of Iron more than is allowed in a general Way for the Purpose of Cutting, Rivet, and Spring; that he gave him Orders and paid him as for Silver Snufflers—that the Witness put his Mark upon the Snufflers, and got them marked at Goldsmiths Hall, and told great Numbers of them to a Variety of Persons; but when he detected the Fraud he returned Nineteen or Twenty Pair of them to the Maker; that he saw several of them opened, and none of them contained less than 17 dwts. of Iron, and some more; that 4 dwts. of Iron is the usual Allowance for the Cutting Part, Rivet, and Spring; that he bought them about Six Pence a Pair cheaper than he could have bought them of a Manufacturer in Town; that he did not proceed to any rigorous Methods against the Maker, because he thought himself responsible, as they had his Mark; and knows of no Method for discovering those Frauds but by breaking or filing off a considerable Quantity of Silver, which would damage the Work very materially; that those Snufflers came about half manufactured, with no Mark upon them.

That he has employed the same Person to make Steel Snufflers for him, but no others, since the Fraud was discovered; and he has made the Witness no Satisfaction for the Fraud.

Mr. James Davenport (Clerk and Assistant to Mr. Ebenezer Coker, a large Plate Manufacturer in Clerkenwell Close) informed Your Committee, That he had likewise bought Twenty-eight Pair of Snufflers from the Snuffler Maker mentioned by the last Witness, and sold several of them; but One Pair happening to be broke was returned to him, when he discovered near the same Quantity of Iron in them as has been mentioned by the preceding Witness, upon which he stopped dealing any farther with him; and does not think it possible for the Assay Master at Goldsmiths Hall to have discovered the Fraud any other Way than by breaking them.

Mr. Abraham Portal (a Goldsmith on Ludgate Hill) informed Your Committee, That it is a common Thing for the Makers of Wares plated with Silver, at Birmingham and Sheffield, to stamp Four Marks thereon, which in Size and Shape imitate those struck at Goldsmiths Hall; and they do this upon almost every Species

Species of their plated Work, in such Manner that ignorant People may easily be deceived thereby.—The Witness produced a Can plated with Silver, which he bought of the Agent of a *Sheffield* Manufacturer, which resembled Silver very much, and having Three Marks upon it, an ignorant Person might be deceived, but he bought it as Plated Work, and believed the Marks were not put on with any fraudulent Intention.—That in his own Shop he has not known plated Work from Silver without a long Examination, and if he was Knave enough, he could tell the Can which he produced for real Silver.

The Witness also produced a plated Coffee Pot, marked in the same Manner as the Can, and said, That the Goldsmiths Hall Marks are a Lion, a Leopard's Head, and a Letter for the Year, but those Marks do not resemble them; that he had dealt in plated Work ever since it came in Use, and never objected to the Makers putting Four Marks thereon, which he presumed were the Maker's Name, and did not apprehend they were put on with a fraudulent Design, but probably to gratify their Customers, as it made the Work look more like Silver; that he never knew a *Sheffield* or *Birmingham* Man attempt to sell such Work for Silver; and apprehended there could be no other Use in putting the Four Marks, than to make it have the stronger Appearance of Silver.

Mr. *Richard Morjon* (a Goldsmith and Plate Worker on *Ludgate Hill*) confirmed the Evidence given by the last Witness in every Particular; and added, That he had seen plated Work of almost every Pattern that was made in Silver, and so well imitated, that he has been obliged to file the Coat of Silver off before he could distinguish the Difference, and his Customers have declared they could not distinguish the Difference between plated and Silver Work, if he had not mentioned it; that he had dealt in such Goods Four or Five Years, and that about a Year since he forbid the Four Marks being put on the plated Work he bought, as he thought it had a fraudulent Appearance, and seemed to be illegal, and since that Time it has been discontinued by the Person to whom he mentioned it; that he believes plated Work with such Marks might be sold for solid Silver, for though he could not say they were an Imitation of the Marks of any Assay Office, yet they were such as might deceive any Shopkeeper, and being put in the same Places where Silver Work is marked, he thinks they might easily be taken for Silver; but he never knew a Manufacturer offer to sell a Piece of plated Work for real Silver, and believes he never did, by Mistake, sell a Piece of plated Work as real Silver; and that he forbid the Four Marks being put on his plated Work long before he heard of an Application from *Birmingham* and *Sheffield* to obtain Assay Offices.

That on Plate marked at Goldsmiths Hall, when finished, he has observed the Marks to be so blinded as not to be able to be distinguished, and believes such Marks are not defaced intentionally, but unavoidably in the finishing; and when it appears to be so defaced, he thinks the Marks are no Security to the Buyer;—and if the Witness bought Plate with blind Marks upon it, he should venture to sell it, and run the Risk of the Person's being responsible from whom he bought it.

Mr. *Charles Wright* (a Silvermith in *Ave Maria Lane, London*) said, That in *October* last a Coffee Pot, Two Pair of Silver Candlesticks and Snuffers, and a plated Snuffer Stand, were offered to him at 5 s. 6 d. an Ounce, by a Person who had advanced Money upon them as solid Silver, and that they were entered as such in a Catalogue for Sale:—That the Witness discovered the Stand to be Copper immediately on View, but cannot tell where it was made.

Mr. *William Benn* (Shopman to Mr. *Ritberton*, a Silvermith in *Algate*) informed Your Committee, That he had in the Dulk of the Evening bought of a Gentlewoman who had been a Customer to him, a plated Cup, as solid Silver; that he paid it away as Silver to a Manufacturer, who discovered it to be plated:—The Witness produced the Cup, which appeared to have Three Marks upon it, and said, He bought it as uncertain Silver at 4 s. 6 d. per Ounce, and Six Pence over:—That when he buys Silver with the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall he gives 5 s. 6 d. an Ounce; that uncertain Silver is made Abroad;—and that he did not know where this Cup was manufactured.

Mr. *William Smith* (a Goldsmith in *Cheapside*) informed Your Committee, That in *August* 1771 he bought a Dozen of Silver Punch Ladles of a Silvermith at *Sheffield*; that he had One of them assayed about a Month ago (which he produced to Your Committee) when the Report was Three Ounces worse than Standard, although he paid such a Price for them as himself or any other Workman would have made Silver ones for; that he assayed only One of the Ladles, and therefore cannot tell whether the Whole were worse than Standard; that he does not know whether it is usual to make such thin Ladles under Standard in *London*, though he has known some made there by particular Orders of Dollars, which are 4 or 5 dwts. worse than Standard; and though a great many are made in *Town* that are Hall marked, yet he has seen some *Town* made Ladles that have not had the Hall Mark, and believes the Reason is to save the Expence of marking, and has seen Ladles as slight as that produced, with the Hall Mark upon them.

Mr. *George Coules* (a Goldsmith and Plate Worker in *Coruhill*) produced some plated Candlesticks, which he informed Your Committee were made by a Company of Silvermiths at *Sheffield*, with Four Marks thereon, resembling Silver, and which may be sold as such, though they are not the same Figures as the Hall Mark, or the Marks of any Country Assay Office, but Four distinct Letters:—That he did not buy them as Silver, but believes some Goldsmiths might be deceived, and thinks in common he could sell them as solid Silver.

That he has seen Quadrille Pools, Snuffer Pans, and many other Things made at *Sheffield*, with those Marks impressed upon them, which he said the Manufacturers make use of to resemble the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall; but never law any plated Goods marked with the Hall Mark of *London*, or the Mark of any Country Assay Office.

Mr. *John Nodds* (a Goldsmith in the *Strand*) informed Your Committee, That a Dozen of Silver Handle Knives and Forks (which were produced by Mr. *Fair*) not having the Hall Mark upon them, were bought by the Witness of a Company of Silvermiths at *Sheffield*, and that he paid Three Pence per Set for their being Hall marked; that there is an S struck upon that Part of them where the Hall Mark is generally put; that he was deceived by that Mark, not examining them very attentively when he bought them, and thought it had been the Hall Mark; that he believes they are Standard, and would not have bought them if he had known they were not Hall marked; that he sold them to Mr. *Richard Morjon* in *March* 1771, and never heard till now that they were not Hall marked.

Mr. *Richard Morjon* informed Your Committee, That in *March* 1771, he bought the Knives and Forks before mentioned of Mr. *John Nodds*, and believed at that Time they had been Hall marked, and did not know  
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the Difference until a Customer discovered it; and refused selling them when he found they were not Hall marked.

Frauds committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate in *London*.

Mr. David Hennell informed Your Committee, That if Scrapings or Cuttings are taken from different Pieces of the same Sorts of Plate, the whole Mass so cut or scraped may prove Standard, but several of those Pieces may not be Standard; and that it is common to put good Pieces in Spoons, &c. to the Amount of 10, 12, or 15 dwts. above Standard amongst the bad ones, as a Kind of Convey for the rest; but if that is suspected they separate it, and make different Assays of all the Parts, and if they find One Part worse than Standard they break the Whole; but these Frauds are sometimes detected from the Character of the Man, and the Appearance of the Silver, and by the bending of it; that there has never been an Instance of any such Convoys passing the Office since he has been there; but has seen Snuffers when broke, which had Iron concealed in them, that could not be discovered at the Office, without breaking or destroying the Work.

The Witness further informed Your Committee, That the Company have given Directions to their Officers, when they suspected any plated or fraudulent Ware, to break or spoil it at the Risque of the Company, which they have done.

Mr. Rufforth produced to Your Committee several Spoons of different Sorts of Silver made in *London*, some 6 dwts. better, and others 6 dwts. worse, than Standard, all of them half finished, which were brought to the Office in One Parcel a few Days ago, and which he suspected from the Slightness and Softness of them; and said that Workmen lead Silver in this Way in order to get their bad Wares through the Office.

That he has known Instances of Pieces of Standard Silver folded to Buckles worse than Standard, and filed bright, in order to obtain the Company's Marks;—and further said, That in 1767 a Parcel of Buckles and Tea Tongs, with the Gates folded to them, of a Quality better than Standard, were brought to the Office, but upon Proof of the Trial from the Body of the Buckles, the same were found to be 8 dwts. under Standard.

Mr. James Davenport informed Your Committee, That about Three Years ago Mr. Coker received a Pair of Sauce Boats from a Gentleman in *London* for old Silver, and before they were melted he broke the Handle off, and found it loaded with Solder made of Brass and Silver:—That those Boats were marked at Goldsmiths Hall; and believes the Officers there cannot discover the Solder concealed in the Handles without breaking them; therefore the Witness rather chooses to buy Silver of a Refiner, than old Silver, because from a Refiner he knows what he buys.

Mr. Bernard Holbrook (Agent to *Holland and Co. of Sheffield*) informed Your Committee, That he was desired to buy some Pieces of Silver which had the Mark of *London* Workmen upon them, and on the 10th of February last, he bought a Pair of large Silver Buckles from a Silvermith in *London*, which had the Workman's Name, and also the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall, thereon; that the Witness cut a Piece from the Rim, Chape, and Tongue, free from Solder, and took the same to Goldsmiths Hall on the 11th of February to be assayed; and the Report from Mr. Rufforth, the Head Assay Master there, was, the Rim 6½ dwts. worse than Standard, the Chape 6 dwts. worse, and the Tongue 2 oz. 1 dwt. worse than Standard; the Witness produced the Buckles and the Bill and Receipt, signed by

the Person he bought them of, together with the original Reports from Goldsmiths Hall, which he said had been in his Possession ever since.

He also acquainted Your Committee, That he bought of another Silvermith in *London*, Two Bottle Tickets with the Hall Mark upon them; that he cut a Bit from each, and carried them to Goldsmiths Hall to be assayed; and the Report on the Chain was 2 oz. 11 dwts. worse than Standard, and on the Label 2 dwts. worse than Standard; the Witness also produced the Bottle Tickets and Reports.

That, on the 20th of February, he bought Two Tea Spoons, One large Table Spoon, Two Pair of Sleeve Buttons, One Punch Ladle, One Pair of Shoe Buckles, and One Pair of Tea Tongs, of another Silvermith in *London*, who told him, the Whole were of his own Making.—That the Witness cut a Bit from each Piece, and carried the same to Goldsmiths Hall to be assayed; and Mr. Rufforth, the Assayer, reported, That they were all worse than Standard; viz.

	oz.	dwt.
The Tea Spoons	—	4
The Table Spoon	—	5
The Tea Tongs	—	8
The Punch Ladle	—	7½
The Buckle kin	—	9
The Buckle Chape	—	5½
The Buckle Tongue	—	1 14
The Buttons	—	3 16½

The Witness produced the above Articles to Your Committee, when it appeared, That every Article had the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall except the Buttons; and said, He had no Suspicion that any of those Silvermiths were accustomed to sell bad Plate, neither had he any Direction to go to those particular Houses; and that he had now produced every Piece of Plate which he had bought with a Design to have them assayed, except a Silver Coral, Two Pair of Sleeve Buttons, and Three Thimbles, which he bought of another Silvermith in *London*, and delivered immediately to Mr. Cox, a Refiner of *Sheffield*; that he made no Complaint of this at Goldsmiths Hall, and did not intend to have purchased any of those Articles till he was informed the Goldsmiths Company of *Birmingham* and *Sheffield* charging the Manufacturers of *Birmingham* and *Sheffield* with Frauds.

That he carried all the Assays he has been speaking of to the Hall, fetched them back from thence, and received the Reports signed by the Assay Master, and the Assay Birs.—That he delivered five of the Assays into Mr. Cox's Hands, to see what Report the Hall had made; and that they were never out of his Possession till he delivered them to Mr. Cox.—That he took the Silver from the same Parts of the Plate as he would have done had he bought it as uncertain Silver—and added, That about Three Weeks or a Month ago, he took Two Assay Birs. of Silver to Goldsmiths Hall, which were reported 16½ dwts. better than Standard.

Mr. Albion Cox informed Your Committee, That he served an Apprenticeship with Mr. Robert Albion Cox, a Refiner in *Little Britain*; that he had had much Experience in buying old Silver, and never bought a Tankard of *London* make, and marked with the Goldsmiths Hall Mark, without first examining the Handle, as there had been often found Pieces of Brass, Copper, and Solder, concealed in the Handles of Tankards.

That on the 11th of February last, he stood at the Door of a Silvermith in *London*, whilst Mr. Holbrook bought there, and delivered to him, a Silver Coral, Two Pair of Silver Sleeve Buttons, and Three Thimbles; that he opened One of the Bells of the Coral, and found a Piece of Brass therein weighing only One Grain and a Half less than the Bell.—That he took Two Pieces from the Coral, One from the Body,

and

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and the other from the Bells, and One Piece from One of the Thimbles, and another from the Buttons, to a private Assay Master in *Gutter Lane*, who made a Report of their being all worse than Standard; viz.

	oz.	dwt.
The Body of the Coral	—	5½
The Bells	—	7½
The Thimble	—	2½
The Buttons	—	3½

The Witnesses further said, That none of those Articles had the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall, for it is not usual to mark such Things; and that he bought them as Standard Silver, at 5s. 6d. an Ounce, as appeared by the Bill which he produced.

He also produced to Your Committee a Pepper Box with the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall upon it, which had been assayed by the beforementioned Assayer, who reported the Foot to be 5 dwt. worse than Standard, and the Button 4 dwt. worse than Standard.

The Witnesses also said, That he had neither bought, or employed any Person else to buy, any Plate since the 1st of *February* last, except what he had produced.

Your Committee, in order to be perfectly informed of the Quantity of Alloy that was in each of the following Pieces of Plate, which had been produced to them by Mr. *Holbrook* and Mr. *Cox*; viz.

Admitted by the Assay Master of the Goldsmiths Company to have the Hall Mark upon them.	{	A Pepper Box		
		Two Bottle Tickets		
		One Pair of Tea Tongs		
		One large Spoon		
		One narrow rim'd Buckle		
		One broad rim'd Buckle		
		Two Tea Spoons		
		Two odd Pieces of Buckles		
Doubtful	—	{	Two Tea Spoons	
		One Punch Ladle		
		One large Pair of Sleeve Buttons		
		One small Pair of Sleeve Buttons		
Not Hall marked	—	{	A Buckle Chape	
		A Coral		
		Two Thimbles		

Directed that proper Pieces for making Assays should be cut from each of them, and delivered to Mr. *Chamberlayne*, Solicitor of the Mint, who was desired by Your Committee to deliver the same to the Assay Master of the Mint, in order to be assayed by him, and to request him to attend Your Committee with the Reports of the several Assays.—And Your Committee also directed, That a proper Quantity of Cuttings from the same Pieces of Plate should be delivered to the Assay Master of Goldsmiths Hall, to be assayed by him, and that he should also attend Your Committee with his Reports thereof.

Mr. *Stainby Alborne* (Assayer to the Master of the Mint) informed Your Committee, That he had assayed the several Pieces of Plate delivered to him by their Direction, and reported the same as follows:

	Nº	oz.	dwt.
Castor	{ Foot	—	1 W. — 4
	{ Body	—	2 W. — 2
	{ Neck	—	3 W. — 2
	{ Cover	—	4 W. — 2
Tea Tongs	{ Lion Side	—	5 W. — 6
	{ Workman's Side	—	6 W. — 6
Table Spoon	{ Spring	—	7 W. — 5
		—	8 W. — 2½
Tea Spoon	—	—	9 W. — 1½

Bottle Ticket	—	—	10 B. — 10
Buckle	{ Rim	{ Plain	11 W. — 7½
		{ Pierced	12 W. — 2½
	{ Rim	{ Pierced	13 W. — 2½
		{ (Wallis)	14 W. — 2½
Coral Body	{ Tongue	{ (Wallis)	15 W. — 16 (Single)
	{ Chape	{ (Wallis)	16 W. — 3 (Single)
Threaded Tea Spoon	—	—	17 W. — 1½
Punch Ladle	—	—	18 W. — 5½
Buckle Chape (G.S.)	—	—	20 W. — 4
Label Chain	—	—	21 W. — 2
Button	—	—	22 W. — 3 10

Mr. *Rufhorst* produced to Your Committee his Reports of the Assays made by him of the several Pieces of Plate pursuant to their Direction (which, he said, were made from the Standard Piece at the Office, but those mentioned by Mr. *Holbrook* and Mr. *Cox*, were made as private Assays) as follows:

Nº		oz.	dwt.
1.	The Foot of the Castor	—	W. — 4
2.	Body of D°	—	W. — 2
3.	Neck of D°	—	W. — 2
4.	Castor Cover	—	W. — 2
5.	Tea Tongs (Lion Side)	—	W. — 6
6.	D° (Workman's Side)	—	W. — 6
7.	Tea Tongs (Spring)	—	W. — 5
8.	Table Spoon	—	W. — 2
9.	Tea Spoon	—	W. — 2
10.	Bottle Ticket	—	B. — 10
11.	Plain Buckle Rim	—	W. — 7
12.	Cut pierced Buckle	—	W. — 3
13.	Buckle Rim (pierced)	—	W. — 3
14.	Buckle Rim	—	W. — 2½
15.	Buckle Tongue	—	W. — 17
16.	Buckle Chape	—	W. — 2
17.	Body of Coral	—	W. — 1
18.	Threaded Tea Spoon	—	W. — 1½
19.	Punch Ladle	—	W. — 5
20.	A Buckle Chape	—	W. — 4
21.	A Label Chain	—	W. — 16½
22.	Button	—	W. — 13

N. B. The Letter W. signifies worse, and the Letter B. better, than Standard.

Mr. *Floyer* informed Your Committee, That he had many Years bought old Silver; and that when Tankards or Cups, with the Mark of *London* Workmen, and of Goldsmiths Hall, were offered to him for Sale, he suspected they might have too much Solder in the Handles, and always looked upon it as necessary to break those Parts.

That it is customary for Shopkeepers to pay Working Silvermiths in Part with old Silver, which is a Practice that he apprehends ought to be restrained, as being a Grievance to the Workmen, because it occasions their Plate to be often cut at the Hall.

That he had seen Spoons Two or Three Ounces worse than Standard, before the late Act of Parliament, which made it Felony to imitate the Hall Mark; but that he should buy Buckles or Spoons made since that Time as Standard, if they had the Hall Mark upon them.

Mr. *Spilbury*, informed Your Committee, That he sells his Manufactures; viz. Cruet Frames, Bottle Stands, Pails, Mustard Pots, and Salts in general, to Shopkeepers in *London*, and receives old Silver for the Weight of the Plate, and Money for the Fashion; —that it is the Custom of the Trade to employ Casters, who agree to cast their Work of such a Standard as will pass at the Hall; and that Buckles of modern Make, and



and with a plain Hall Mark, which he takes in Part of Payment from his Customers, his Caster will not take of him without an Abatement of One Penny per Ounce, to make it up Standard, which Abatement the Witness has allowed, because it is customary for the Trade in general to do it, but is a great Grievance; that he had sometimes assayed them, and found they turned out worse than his Caster's Report.

The Witness further said, That when he takes his Plate to the Silvermiths, for whom he has made it, some of them infilt upon his taking Buckles, that they offer him in Part of Payment, which he submits to, rather than take his Plate back; as by taking it to another Shop he should lose more.—And being asked, If he knew any Thing of Convoys?—he acquainted Your Committee, That it was a common Practice in the Silver Trade, and that each Branch adopted Convoys proper for their own Manufactures; and that it is customary for the Officers at Goldsmiths Hall to strike their Marks near the Workman's Mark; That he has known a Punch Ladle made with Two long Lips, and when the Maker put his Mark near the Edge of the Lip, the Officers at Goldsmiths Hall did the same; the Workmen then cut off that Part; and this Operation upon a Ladle has been repeated Two or Three Times; that he has known the same Method practised in Skewers, by making them very long, putting the Marks at the Ends, and cutting them off; but never made any Discovery of such Frauds to the Officers of the Goldsmiths Company, for Fear of drawing an Oidium upon himself from the Trade.

Mr. John Williams (a Silver Caster in *Lad Lane, Wood Street*) informed Your Committee, That he casts Silver for Silvermiths, from Silver which they deliver to him; that he does not cast every Person's Silver separately, but mixes them together; that he was employed Two or Three Years ago by the aforementioned Witness to cast Work for him; and had some of his Silver assayed, which was reported some 15 dwt. others 17 dwt. and some an Ounce under Standard, although he had told this Witness it was better than Standard; that he has sometimes received from the same Person Brafs Clippings or Cuttings, coloured like Silver, to be cast into Work; and had several Times melted Bottoms of Bottle Stands, which had the Mark of Goldsmiths Hall upon them; having been there, as he apprehends, to convoy the Rest, as they were 4, 5, or 6 dwt. better than Standard; that he refused to be further employed by the Person who had made Use of such Practices, lest it should hurt his other Customers, as it was usual to cast all their Work together, and they delivered him better Silver.

Mr. Fair acquainted Your Committee, That all London Silvermiths, who are Members of the Goldsmiths Company, take an Oath, not to manufacture Silver worse than Standard.—That in order to discover Frauds in the Trade, the Goldsmiths Company have caused Extracts of the Laws, for preventing Frauds, to be printed, published, and dispersed, both in Town and Country; and likewise Notices, signifying the Company's Readiness to prosecute Offenders; and that when Frauds have been complained of to the Company, such Complaints have been duly attended to, and every Means used by the Company to prevent them.

Being asked, Whether the Goldsmiths Company have ever searched Silvermiths Shops, in order to try their Plate, and detect Frauds? he said, He did not know of any such Search, and doubted whether they had a Power so to do; but the Company had often paid for Plate, bought in Order to detect Frauds, and had detected several by that Means.—And further said, That the Assay Master at Goldsmiths Hall was not sworn under the Act of Parliament, but by the same Authority

as the Wardens and other Officers of the Company are sworn; that Company being a Corporation by Prescription, which existed prior to the granting of their First Charter, and apprehends they had a Right, by Prescription, to keep an Assay Office antecedent to any Statute.

Concerning the Standard Plate, and the Method of performing Assays by the King's Assay Master at the Mint.

Mr. David Hennell informed Your Committee, That the Standard of Silver Plate is 11 oz. 2 dwt. fine Silver, and 18 dwt. of Alloy to the Pound Troy, from which Standard they make their Report; and that the Assayer ought not to report any Thing as Standard which is below that.

That where the Plate consists of different Parts, and the Scrapings from all Parts together appear upon the Assay to be Standard, he considers that whole Piece of Plate to be Standard.

Mr. Ruyfford acquainted Your Committee, That if, upon Trial of the Plate at Goldsmiths Hall, it comes within 2 dwt. of Standard, they pass it as Standard.

Being asked, How near in assaying he can tell the Degree of Alloy? he answered, To a Quarter of a Grain.—And being further asked, Whether the Standard appointed for Wrought Plate was the same as that appointed for the Coin of the Kingdom? he answered, The very same; and further said, That the Standard for Silver is 11 oz. 2 dwt. and that the Hall Mark is put upon Plate which he assays, upon his Report, without any other Authority.

And being asked, What Check there is in the Office upon his Skill and Integrity?—he answered, The Oath he took; but that there is no official Check except the Diet.

That the Assayers pass Plate which is 11 oz. fine as Standard;—and the Standard Piece of the Kingdom is 11 oz. 2 dwt.—that they never pass Plate less than 11 oz. fine, but allow 2 dwt. rather than deface the Plate.

Mr. William Hancock informed Your Committee, That he buys his Silver of the Refiner, and pays the Price of Standard Silver for it, as 11 oz. 2 dwt. fine, and 18 dwt. Alloy, and that it always passes the Hall.

Mr. Albion Cox acquainted Your Committee, That the Person with whom he served his Apprenticeship sold Five thousand Ounces of Silver Weekly to Working Silvermiths, which was 2½ dwt. under Standard; that he believed he had more than Two hundred Customers in Town and Country, and that they never had any Complaint from any Manufacturer of that Silver being broke at the Hall, where it was found to be a Custom to pass Silver 2½ dwt. worse than Standard, and therefore they sold such; and he believes it is the Practice amongst Refiners now.—That he now sells Silver to the Silvermiths at *Sheffield* 2 dwt. worse than Standard, though when he went first to that Place, it was the Custom of the House he is concerned with to make all their Silver Standard, until he told them that they passed it at Goldsmiths Hall 2½ worse than Standard; and then they reduced theirs to the same Worseness.

That the Silver which he sold to the Manufacturers was sometimes assayed by the Hall Assayers, and sometimes by private Assayers, and thinks the Silver he so sold to his Customers could not be varied Half a Penny-weight in the Pound in Working.

That he sells Silver called Fine or Pure Silver, and apprehends that 11 oz. 2 dwt. of that Silver, and 18 dwt. of Copper would not make Silver of legal Standard, but would be reported by any Assay Master 2 dwt. worse than Standard, and never saw Silver more than 16½ dwt.

dwt. better than legal Standard; and that it will take 11 oz. 4 dwt. of what is called, and sold for, Fine Silver, and 16 dwt. of Copper, to make legal Standard.

Mr. Joseph Clark informed Your Committee, That 11 oz. 2 dwt. of Fine Silver and 18 dwt. of Alloy, mixed together, will not be reported Standard by any Assay Master—That the London Refiners sell Silver to their Customers, as Standard Silver, 2 dwt. worse, which is assayed as the Act directs; that is to say, 11 oz. 2 dwt. of Fine Silver and 18 dwt. Alloy.

Being asked the Reason, Why 11 oz. 2 dwt. of Fine Silver, and 18 dwt. of Alloy, will not turn out upon an Assay 11 oz. 2 dwt. of Fine Silver? he said, That every Time Silver is refined, it loses 2 dwt. in the Pound of its own Subtance: that perfect Fine Silver will be reported 16 dwt. better than Standard; and the same Silver, returned the next Day into the Fire, will come out 14 dwt. and the next Day 12.

Mr. Spillary informed Your Committee, That the eminent London Refiners sell Silver, under the Denomination of Sterlings, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  dwt. worse than Standard—that it refines Half a Pennyweight by Melting;—that 2 dwt. worse than Standard is what those Refiners sell as Standard;—that the 2 dwt. Allowance was intended as an Indulgence to the Workman, but the Refiners have run away with it.

Mr. Floyer acquainted Your Committee, That he apprehends the Standard for Wrought Plate is the same as that appointed for the Coin of this Kingdom; viz. 11 oz. 2 dwt. which he confides as Sterling Silver; that before he sells Sterling Silver to the Workmen, he sends Assays to Goldsmiths Hall, and when it is reported from thence Standard, he then puts to it 1 dwt. 6 gr. of Copper, but never more; and if a Piece of Plate was made from that Silver, it would pass at Goldsmiths Hall as Standard; and that he never had any Silver, at since he has been in the Trade, which is less than forty Years.

That he sells considerable Quantities of Fine Silver:—And being asked, Whether 11 oz. 2 dwt. of his Fine Silver, and 18 dwt. of Copper, will make Silver of legal Standard?—he said, It will be reported 2 dwt. worse, which is in Fact the Remedy.

Mr. Stein's Advice informed Your Committee, That by fluting Silver with a Hammer, or by cutting it with Shears, he discovers whether it is alloyed, and with what;—that in performing the Assay, he proportions Lead to the Alloy by the Operation of Copping;—that by a minute Attendance and Examination during the Operation, he is able to judge of the Success; and if he finds it has not answered, he is obliged to make a Second Operation.—If Tin appears, he adds a larger Quantity of Lead, but no Salt Peetre, which he said, would destroy the Metal, and destroy the Coppel.—That if a Mixture of Silver 12 dwt. below Standard is melted down, it will not refine to Standard by common Melting, but if a Flux is used with it, he believes it will; and that if the Scrapings taken at Goldsmiths Hall are not quite Standard, their being made finer by melting will depend much upon the Quantity of the Flux, and the Management of the Melter—but he believes if the Flux is in small Quantities it may be melted with little or no Variation, and if there is any Variation it will be on the Side of the Refinement.—That never melted with a Flux loses in Quantity, and it may be from both the Silver and Alloy, but that very little, if any, is lost by Evaporation.

Being asked, What Quantity of Silver was most proper to make an Assay from? he said, That at the Mint they use from 10 to 20 Grains; but that the Germans, who are most expert in assaying, employ 30 Grains;

and thinks a Workman properly qualified in his Business should be allowed a Pennyweight on each Side the Line for any Accident that may happen in reducing fine Silver to Standard, and that he may assay it with sufficient Certainty not to be under Standard.

Being asked, What is understood by the Word Remedy at the Mint? he said, At His Majesty's Mint it is a Deviation of 2 dwt. in the Pound of all Silver Monies from the precise Standard, and is to include the Defect or Excess in Weight or in Fineness, or in both; but it is only allowed in case of Casualty, as an Allowance or Remedy for Fallibility in Workmanship; if the Remedy is wanted in Weight, it is not allowed in Fineness, and he believes it is generally understood, that the same Latitude is allowed in Assaying Plate.

Being asked, What Quantity of fine Silver and Alloy there is in the Standard Piece for Wrought Silver Plate? he said, The Standard Piece at the Mint consists of full 11 oz. 2 dwt. of fine Silver, with near 18 dwt. of Alloy (he having assayed it himself) and from which a Part was lodged with the Goldsmiths Company, and believes the Whole was made by that Company in the Year 1728.

Being desired to explain to Your Committee his Observations upon the Waste of Silver in the various Operations of Assaying; he said, The Assaying of Silver is a Chymical Process for separating this precious Metal from all baser Metals; which in this Case are called Alloy.

If this Silver could be absolutely freed from all Admixture of Alloy, without losing any Atom of its Subtance, the Art might be deemed perfect, but there will always remain some small Quantity of Alloy, or even of the Lead used in the Process; and the Silver itself will not pass through the Operation without losing a small Part of its Subtance, which is carried by the Lead into the Coppel—All which may be proved to a Demonstration by skilful Chymists.

The above Obstacles to the Perfection of Assaying depend upon various Circumstances; the Quantity and Equality of the Fire, the Conduct of Air, the Proportion and Quality of the Alloy, the Weight of Lead, the Subtance of the Coppel, and even Alterations in the Atmosphere, will all of them produce Variations; so that the Extent of these Defects can never be precisely ascertained before the Operation. But by long Observation and real Experience skilful Persons may learn to counterbalance, and allow for, these several Accidents, so as to make good Judgment of common alloyed Silver, within about One Halfpenny Weight.

Mr. Fair produced to Your Committee Extracts from such Parts of the Charters granted to the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, as relate to the Regulation of the Assays of Wrought Plate, taken from their Translations of such Charters; also Extracts of such Bye Laws of the said Company as relate to the Regulation of the Assays of Wrought Plate; and also the annual Reports of the Trials of the Diet in the Assay Office at Goldsmiths Hall for the Years 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, and 1772; which are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 6.

That Your Committee, upon closing the Evidence relative to the Assay Office at Chester, in order to testify their Approbation thereof, made the following Observation; viz. "That it appears to this Committee, that the Assay Office at Chester has been conducted with Fidelity and Skill;" and upon closing the Evidence relative to the Assay Office at Newcastle upon Tyne, Your Committee made the same Observation respecting that Office.

Your Committee further observe to the House, That the Artificers are now arrived at so great a Perfection in plating with Silver the Goods made of base Metal, that they very much resemble solid Silver; and if the Practice

Practice which has been introduced, of putting Marks upon them somewhat resembling those used at the Assay Offices, shall not be restrained, many Frauds and Impositions may be committed upon the Public.

And Your Committee beg Leave further to observe to the House, that it appears to them, from the Manner in which the said several Assay Offices have been and

are now conducted, that they are liable to many Abuses and Impositions, and that various Frauds have been committed upon Silver Plate, contrary to the legal Standard established in this Kingdom; and that some further Checks, and Regulations are necessary to be made, in and over the said Offices, besides those provided by the Laws now in being.

## A P P E N D I X.

## No. 1.

London, March 8 1773.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plate Workers, Freeman of, and inhabiting within, the City of London, and who have served an Apprenticeship to the said Trade, that are now Members of the Company of Goldsmiths of the said City.

Workmens Names.	Places of Abode.	Devonshire, Israel	— N° 125, Aldersgate Street
<b>A</b>		Dobson, Edward	— Fleet Street
ALDRIDGE, Cōnks	Aldersgate Street	Drydale, John	— Wood Street
Alvine, Jonathan	Fenchurch Street	Dunckerley, Charles	— Little Britain
Arnold, John —	Little Britain	<b>E</b>	
Arnold, Thomas —	N° 89, London Wall	Eastwick, Adrian	— Cross Keys Court, Little Britain
Aylcough, Ralph —	Ludgate Street	Evans, Thomas	— Wood Street
<b>B</b>		<b>F</b>	
Baret, Wilhem —	N° 1, Addle Street	Fearn, William	— N° 75, Wood Street
Barry, Saint John	Pater Noster Row	Ferri, Matthew	— Offer Lane, Smithfield
Bell, Thibill —	Thames Street	Fisher, William	— N° 73, Little Britain
Bennett, Edward	Lombard Street	Fry, John —	— Bull and Mouth Street
Bickerton, Benjamin	N° 41, Jewin Street	<b>G</b>	
Bray, Nathaniel	St. Ann's Lane	Gamon, Michael	— N° 3, Paul's Court, Hogarth Lane
Brind, Walter	Foster Lane	Gould, James —	— Ave Maria Lane
Bridges, Joseph —	Foster Lane	Gurden, Benjamin	— Noble Street
<b>C</b>		Grundy, William	— Fetter Lane
Cattell, William	Bull Head Court, Jewin Street	<b>H</b>	
Chawner, Thomas	Pater Noster Row	Harding, Thomas	— Minories
Chefferman, Charles	Fleet Market	Hallsworth, Henry	— N° 24, Bull and Mouth Street
Cocles, George —	N° 21, Cornhill	Hebden, Luke —	— Prince's Street, Barbican
Cox, Robert Albin	Little Britain	Hennell, Robert	— Foster Lane
Cox, William —	Saint Paul's Church Yard	Hobdell, Henry —	— Silver Street
Cranmullion, Peter	Clarkenwell Green	Holland, John —	— Bishopsgate Street
Crouch, John —	N° 28, Giltspur Street	Hunt, James —	— King Street, Cheapside
Hannam, Thomas	N° 28, Giltspur Street	Hunter, William	— Lombard Street
Crouckshank, Robert	Old Jewry	Hyatt, John —	— Little Britain
Crump, Francis	Gutter Lane	<b>I</b>	
<b>D</b>		Jay, Edward —	— Salisbury Court
Daniel, Jabez —	Carey Lane	Jones, William —	— Gored Lane
Daniel, Thomas —	Carey Lane	Jones, James —	— Noble Street
Deacon, John —	N° 1, Love Lane, Wood Street		
DeLany, Samuel	New Street Square		

K. Kendall,

**K**  
 Kendall, Luke — — N° 26, Wood Street  
 Key, Samuel — — Fountain Court, Cheapside  
 King, John — — N° 73, Little Britain  
 Kingman, James — — Leadenhall Street

**L**  
 Lamb, John — — Fetter Lane  
 Lancaster, William — — Noble Street  
 Leadbetter, Charles — — Oat Lane  
 Lewis, Joseph — — N° 38, Fetter Lane  
 Lord, William — — Silver Street

**M**  
 Makemid, Christopher — — Shoe Lane  
 Maffey, Samuel — — N° 8, Fetter Lane  
 Moore, John — — Fleet Street  
 Morjon, Richard — — Ludgate Hill  
 Moulton, Samuel — — N° 18, Little Britain

**P**  
 Payne, John — — Cheapside  
 Penston, William — — Noble Street  
 Perkins, Jonathan — — N° 5, Winchester Court,  
 Monkwell Street  
 Perry, John — — Wood Street  
 Phipps, James — — Gutter Lane  
 Piercy, Robert — — Fetter Lane  
 Poni, John — — Maiden Lane  
 Portal, Abraham — — Ludgate Hill  
 Priest, William — — Whitecross Street  
 Priest, James — — Whitecross Street

**Q**  
 Quanteck, John — — Wood Street

**R**  
 Ray, Thomas — — Bridewell Precinct  
 Reading, John — — N° 26, Season Lane  
 Rowe, John — — Gutter Lane  
 Ruffin, Francis — — Cripplegate

**S**  
 Sallam, Robert — — Watling Street  
 Sarny, John — — Gutter Lane  
 Satchwell, Thomas — — N° 20, Pater Noster Row  
 Savory, Joseph — — N° 24, Old Fish Street  
 Scatoun, George — — Gutter Lane  
 Shaw, William — — Bishopsgate Street  
 Shepherd, Thomas — — Bull and Mouth Street  
 Simons, William — — N° 6, Barbican  
 Sharp, Robert — — Aldermanbury  
 Smith, George — — Hogan Lane  
 Sones, Thomas — — Lily Pot Lane  
 Sudell, William — — Monkwell Street  
 Swift, John — — Noble Street  
 Swift, Thomas — — Old Bailey

**T**  
 Taylor, Samuel — — Maiden Lane, Wood Street  
 Thorne, Thomas — — Wood Street  
 Trigram, Benjamin — — Hogan Lane

**V**  
 Vincent, Edmond — — King's Arms Court, Lud-  
 gate Hill  
 Vincent, William — — Saint Ann's Lane

**W**  
 Wallis, Thomas — — Monkwell Street  
 Waters, James — — Ludgate Street  
 Watkins, John — — Giltspur Street  
 Webber, William — — Silver Street, Wood Street  
 Whigham, Thomas — — Fleet Street  
 White, Fuller — — Noble Street

White, Samuel — — Oat Lane  
 Wright, Charles — — Ave Maria Lane

**Y**  
 York, Thomas — — Fleet Market

But there are many other Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plate-workers, inhabiting within the said City, who obtained their Freedom of the said Company by Patrimony, or Redemption, or are Freemen of other Companies. And there are also many other Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, who do not inhabit within the said City, or did not serve an Apprenticeship to the said Trade, who obtained their Freedom of the said Company by Service, Patrimony, or Redemption, or are Freemen of other Companies.

Fendall Rufforth,  
 Richard Hughes.

London, March 8 1773.

An ACCOUNT of the Names and Trades of the present Wardens and Assayers of the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, and when, and at what Times, and by whom, they were respectively elected.

PETER Floyer, Esquire, Refiner,  
 Samuel Smith, Esquire, Banker,  
 Mr. Thomas Parr, Goldsmith,  
 Mr. Matthew Perchard, Goldsmith,  
 Fendall Rufforth, Plateworker,  
 Richard Hughes, Plateworker.

Wardens.  
 Assayers.

The said Assayers have now no Concern whatever in the Manufacturing of Gold and Silver Plate, and follow the Business of Assaying only. And the said Peter Floyer, Samuel Smith, Thomas Parr, Matthew Perchard, and Fendall Rufforth, were respectively elected into the said respective Offices of Wardens and Senior Assayer, at a Court of Assisants holden at Goldsmiths Hall, London, on Wednesday the Thirteenth Day of May now last past, by the following Wardens and Assisants of the said Company then and there present; to wit;

Mr. Thomas Whigham,  
 John Wickenden, Esquire,  
 Samuel Smith, Esquire,  
 Mr. Thomas Parr,  
 Thomas Hallifax, Esquire, and Alderman,  
 John Bird, Esquire, and Alderman,  
 Francis Flower, Esquire,  
 Mr. Sandilands Drinkwater,  
 Mr. Samuel Wood,  
 Mr. John Payne,  
 Peter Moyer, Esquire,  
 Mr. Edward Cooke,  
 Mr. Matthew Perchard,  
 Mr. Henry Boldero,  
 Mr. Arthur Sadler,  
 Mr. Thomas Thorne,  
 Mr. Joseph Rose,  
 Mr. Wade Holton,  
 Mr. John White,  
 Mr. George Cooper, and  
 Mr. Robert Thorne.

And the said Richard Hughes was elected into the said Office of Junior Assayer, at a Court of Assisants holden at Goldsmiths Hall, London, on Friday the Twenty-ninth Day of May now last past, by the following Wardens and Assisants of the said Company then and there present; to wit;

Mr. Thomas Whipham,  
John Wickenden, Esquire,  
Samuel Smith, Esquire,  
Mr. Thomas Parr,  
Peter Floyer, Esquire,  
Mr. Matthew Percbard,  
Thomas Hallifax, Esquire, and Alderman,  
Mr. Joseph Cooke,  
Francis Flower, Esquire,  
Mr. Sandilands Drinkwater,  
Mr. Samuel Wood,  
Mr. John Payne,  
Joseph Martin, Esquire,  
John Pope, Esquire,  
Mr. Edward Cooke,  
Charles Vere, Esquire,  
Mr. Henry Boldero,  
Mr. Aribur Sadler,  
Mr. Thomas Thorne,  
William Smith, Esquire,  
Mr. Joseph Rose,  
Mr. John White,  
Mr. George Cooper,  
Mr. Robert Thorne,  
Mr. John Maddison, and  
Richard Stone, Esquire.

Fend. Rushforth,  
Richard Hughes.

London, March 8 1773.

An ACCOUNT when, and before whom, the present Assayers of the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, were sworn for the due Execution of their said Offices.

FENDALL RUSHFORTH, the present Senior Assayer, and Richard Hughes, the present Junior Assayer of the said Company, had administered unto them, and took the following Oath, for the due Execution of their said Offices; to wit:

"Ye shall sweare that ye shalbe feithfull and treue  
"to oure soveraign Lord the kyng and treue ye  
"shalbe in the Office of Comen Assayer for the  
"Crafte of Goldsmithes And ye shall treue  
"Assayes make of all suche Gold and Silver  
"as shalbe brought to you to assay and none  
"avayle to yourselfe take to the hurtyng of  
"any Parson that is Owner or brynger in of  
"any Gold or Silver to be assayed And ye shall  
"no Gold nor Silver admytte to be towchid  
"under the goodnes ordeyned by Acts of Parl.  
"Also all suche Stuffe as ye shall receyve of Gold

"and Silver ye shall safely kepe and truly re-  
"memb it in Wrytyng  
"And at all tymes when ye shalbe requyred  
"duely and truly delyver agayn and treue  
"Accompt make therof without fawoure  
"Affection hate or yvell will shewyng to any  
"parte  
"And if any parson of the saide Crafte wold  
"imagine or practise any untrough to deceyve  
"the Wardens or you ye shall anon geve  
"knowledge to the Wardynes therof so that  
"they may ordeyn remedy for the fame as the  
"Cafe shall requyre Also ye shall none Assaye  
"make uppon thynges new wrought before it  
"be marked with the marke of the owner or  
"maker therof and moreover in all other  
"thynges that ye shall dele or doe for the  
"felaulhippe and evy membre therof concnyng  
"your Office ye shall do it justly and truly to  
"your power without any dycete.

"So helpe you God."

at a Court of Assittants holden at Goldsmiths Hall, London, on Friday the Twenty-ninth Day of May now last past, by and before the following Wardens and Assittants of the said Company, then and there present; to wit;

Mr. Thomas Whipham,  
John Wickenden, Esquire,  
Samul Smith, Esquire,  
Mr. Thomas Parr,  
Peter Floyer, Esquire,  
Mr. Matthew Percbard,  
Thomas Hallifax, Esquire, and Alderman,  
Mr. Joseph Cooke,  
Francis Flower, Esquire,  
Mr. Sandilands Drinkwater,  
Mr. Samuel Wood,  
Mr. John Payne,  
Joseph Martin, Esquire,  
John Pope, Esquire,  
Mr. Edward Cooke,  
Charles Vere, Esquire,  
Mr. Henry Boldero,  
Mr. Aribur Sadler,  
Mr. Thomas Thorne,  
William Smith, Esquire,  
Mr. Joseph Rose,  
Mr. John White,  
Mr. George Cooper,  
Mr. Robert Thorne,  
Mr. John Maddison, and  
Richard Stone, Esquire.

Fendall Rushforth,  
Richard Hughes.

London, March 8th 1773:

An ACCOUNT of the Names and Places of Abode of all the Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, now living, that have entered their Marks in the Assay Office in Goldsmiths Hall, in the City of London.

Workmen's Names.	Trades.	Places of Abode.
ABDY, William	Haft Maker	Oat Lane, Noble Street
Adams, Joseph	—	Walfall, Staffordshire
Adams, Stephen	Buckle Maker	Saint Ann's Lane
Adcock, Thomas	—	Church Lane, St. Martin's Strand
Alderhead, John	Goldsmith	Bishopsgate Street
Aldridge, Edward	—	George Street, St. Martin's le Grand
Aldridge, Charles, and Green, Henry	—	Aldersgate Street
Aldridge, William	Haft Maker	Red Lion Passage, Holborn
Alderson, Josiah	Watch Case Maker	Pye Corner
Alleine, Jonathan	—	Fenchurch Street
Allen, James	Buckle Maker	Chichester Rent, Chancery Lane

Allen, Joseph  
Allen, William  
Allen, John  
Allen, William  
Andrews, Richard  
Andrews, George  
Angier, Tobias  
Arbould, Francis  
Ardsois, Stephen  
Armand, Samuel  
Arnell, John  
Arnold, Thomas  
Apthorp, John  
Aptou, George  
Aveline, Law  
Ayfcowb, Ralph

Watch Cafe Maker  
Buckle Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Smallworker  
Goldworker  
—  
Goldworker  
—  
Goldworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldsmith  
Small Worker  
—  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldworker

Fowler's Alley, Bunhill Row  
Little Bartholemew Cloje  
Carthagen Street  
Featherstone Street  
Leadenhall Street  
— Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell  
Brownlow Street, Long Acre  
— Hanover Court, Grub Street  
Fountain Court, Strand  
Ball Yard, Goswell Street Bars  
Little Britain  
N° 89, London Wall  
— New Castle Street, Whitechapel  
Glasbouse Yard, Goswell Street  
Denmark Street, Soho  
Ludgate Street

B

Baker, James  
Baker, John  
Bamford, Thomas  
Baker, Painter  
Barbe, John  
Barber, James  
Bardley, James  
Barbot, Paul  
Barnesley, Charles  
Barnesley, William  
Barrett, William  
Barnet, Alexander  
Barth, James  
Barrow, John  
Barrier, Abraham, and Ducom-  
mon, Louis  
Barry, Saint John  
Bates, Samuel  
Baskerville, George  
Baskinwhite, John  
Batchelor, Philip  
Bateman, Hester  
Baxter, John  
Bayley, John  
Bayley, William  
Bayley, William  
Bayne, John  
Beaddel, Benjamin  
Beaddel, John  
Beale, Richard  
Beard, Hugh  
Beaty, James  
Bell, Christopher  
Bell, Tibill  
Bell, William  
Bellis, James  
Bennet, Edward  
Bennet, Edward, Junior  
Bennett, John  
Bensimont, Louis  
Bickerton, Benjamin  
Binger, Christopher  
Bingley, John  
Bingley, Margaret  
Billinghurst, Henry  
Bird, William  
Biron, Christopher  
Birkenhead, James  
Birt, James  
Blane, Cornelius  
Blyth, Henry  
Boak, Mark  
Boissonnade, Daniel  
Bocket, John  
Bocquet, Philip  
Bocquet, Paul  
Booth, John  
Bonket, Peter

—  
Goldsmith  
—  
—  
Platworker  
—  
Platworker  
Goldworker  
—  
—  
Smallworker  
—  
—  
Goldworker  
Spoon Makers  
Goldsmith  
Goldsmith  
Goldsmith  
Buckle Maker  
Buckle Maker  
Goldsmith  
Goldsmith  
Goldsmith  
—  
Buckle Maker  
—  
Spoon Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldsmith  
—  
Goldworker  
—  
—  
Goldworker  
Goldworker  
Spoon Maker  
Spoon Maker  
Hilt Maker  
Goldworker  
Smallworker  
Goldworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Smallworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Buckle Maker  
Platworker  
Goldworker  
Goldworker  
—  
Smallworker  
Hilt Maker  
Smallworker  
Sword Cutler  
Goldworker  
Goldworker  
Smallworker  
—  
—  
New Court, Bunhill Row  
N° 5, Old Bailey  
— Saint Clement's Lane, Strand  
Compton Street, Soho  
West Street, Seven Dials  
— Bond Street  
Long Acre  
Seven Dials  
Gutter Lane  
Green Street, Leicester Fields  
N° 1, Adde Street  
— near the Hermitage Bridge, Wapping  
— at Mr. Hyslop's, Foster Lane  
at the Golden Head, Tottenham Court Road  
Ratbone Place  
Pater Noster Row  
Uxington  
Albion's Buildings  
N° 6, Dowling's Buildings, Purple Lane  
Great Turnstile, Holborn  
Bunhill Row  
Banbury, Oxfordshire  
Wood Street  
— Black Horse Court, Aldersgate Street  
N° 78, Salisbury Court, Fleet Street  
N° 16, Bartholemew Cloje  
Old Bailey  
Surry Street, Strand  
Henrietta Street, Covent Garden  
— New Court, Brown Street, Bunhill Row  
Greek Street, Soho  
— Crown Court, White's Alley, Coleman Street  
— Thames Street  
Rolls Buildings  
Pall Mall  
Lombard Street  
Corner of Tonley Street, Southwork  
Threadneedle Street  
Fenchurch Street  
N° 41, Jewin Street  
Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road  
Little Britain  
Gutter Lane  
Aldersgate Street  
Near Temple Bar, Strand  
Aldersgate Street  
N° 30, Gutter Lane  
Silver Street, Wood Street  
— N° 62, Aldersgate Street  
Minorities  
King's Head Court, Shoe Lane  
N° 46, Gun Street, Spitalfields  
St. James's Street, Westminster  
N° 8, Bartholemew Cloje  
N° 15, Great Kirby Street  
St. John's Square  
— Compton Street, Soho

Bourne, John	Goldworker	New Street, Covent Garden
Borbers, Albrecht	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 3, Spaw Fields
Bourn, Loader	—	Portsmouth
Bradley, Samuel	Goldsmith	Worcester
Bradshaw, Edward	Watch Cafe Maker	John's Court, Fleet Street
Bray, Nathaniel	—	St. Ann's Lane
Browne, John, and Moore, Thomas	Buckle Makers	Abbot Bromley, Staffordshire, and Bartholomew Close
Bourne, Aaron	Goldworker	New Street, Covent Garden
Breewood, Benjamin	—	Pemberton Row, Gough Square
Betevyle, William Henry	Buckle Maker	Clare Court, Drury Lane
Bewen, Thomas	Smallworker	N <sup>o</sup> 19, Albion's Buildings
Brind, Henry	—	Silver Street
Boyer, John	Button Maker	Horseshoe Alley, Middle Moorfields
Brind, Walter	—	Fogler Lane
Bridges, Joseph	—	Fogler Lane
Bright, William	—	Market Street, St. James's
Broberton, John	Watch Cafe Maker	Islington
Brimblecome, William	Buckle Maker	Bristol
Brockus, John	Hilt Maker	Shoe Lane
Broughno, John	Goldsmith	St. John's Square, Clerkenwell
Brookes, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Old Street
Bromage, William	—	Little Drury Lane, Strand
Bromfield, William	—	John's Court, Cow Lane
Brown, William	Goldsmith	Cheapside
Brown, John	Goldsmith	Plymouth
Brugnier, Philip	Platworker	Bedford Street, Covent Garden
Bumfrjs, Thomas	Platworker	Little Trinity Lane
Burbridge, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	White Fryars Gateway, Fleet Street
Burrough, Thomas	Buckle Maker	Devizes, Wilts
Burrows, John	Buckle Maker	Bartlett Street, Clerkenwell
Burrows, George	Buckle Maker	Clerkenwell Close
Burton, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Bridgewater Square
Bushman, Joseph	Watch Cafe Maker	Warwick Lane
Butcher, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Skinner's Lane, Old Street
Busty, Francis, and Dumes, Nicholas	Goldsmiths	Clerkenwell Close

## C

Cafe, William	—	Marybone
Calane, James Anthony	Goldworker	opposite Exeter 'Change
Calvert Richard	Watch Cafe Maker	Old Bailey
Capper, Edward	Platworker	Round Court, St. Martin's le Grand
Campbell, Neil	Buckle Maker	Aylebury, Bucks
Carpenter, Joseph	Watch Cafe Maker	Blue Anchor Alley, Bunhill Row
Carter, John	Platworker	Bartholomew Close
Carswright, Benjamin	—	Paved Alley, Pall Mall
Carswright, Benjamin	—	Paved Stones, Smithfield
Carter, Thomas	—	Edmond Street, Birmingham
Catt, John	Watch Cafe Maker	Bridgewater Gardens
Cattell, William	Smallworker	Bull Head Court, Jewin Street
Cattell, John	Smallworker	Fore Street
Cater, Thomas	—	Edmond Street, Birmingham
Chaldecott, John	Goldworker	Chichester, Suffex
Chalmers, George	Goldworker	Sidney's Alley, Leicester Fields
Chatterton, William	—	Pater Noster Row, Spittlefields
Chambrier, B. A.	Goldworker	Church Street, St. Ann's
Chawner, Thomas	Spoon Maker	Pater Noster Row
Chawner, William	Goldsmith	New Bond Street
Cheney, John	Buckle Maker	Saint Martin's Lane
Chesler, Samuel	Buckle Maker	Pear Tree Court, Clerkenwell
Chesler, William	Buckle Maker	Southwark
Cheslerman, Charles	Small Worker	Fleet Market
Clarke, Catharine	—	Dorset Court, Salisbury Court
Clark, Charles	Watch Cafe Maker	Featherstone Street
Clarke, James	Watch Cafe Maker	Featherstone Street
Clark, Robert	—	Aldersgate Street
Clarke, Sarah	Buckle Maker	Southwark
Clarke, Thomas	—	Great New Street, Fetter Lane
Clepton, Thomas	—	Angel Street, Saint Martin's le Grand
Clemenjon, John	—	Moorfields
Clemens, Roberts	—	N <sup>o</sup> 3, Little Britain
Clinon, John	—	Salisbury Street, Strand
Clutterbuck, Jasper	—	Crown Court, Crown Alley, Moorfields
Coker, Ebenezer	Goldsmith	Clerkenwell Close
Coley, Simon	Buckle Maker	Aylebury Street, Clerkenwell
Cole, Daniel	—	Old Bailey
Collier, Thomas	—	Giltspur Street



<b>Coleman, Charles</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	Tottenham Court Road
<b>Cooke, Edward</b>	Goldsmith	Southwark
<b>Collings, William</b>	Smallworker	N° 3, Fell Street
<b>Cooper, Benjamin</b>	—	Birmingham
<b>Cooper, Benjamin</b>	Buckle Maker	Highbury
<b>Cormick, John</b>	Smallworker	Horseshoe Alley, Middle Moorfields
<b>Cooper, John, and Giles, George</b>	—	The Curtain, Hollowell Mount
<b>Cotterell, Charles</b>	—	Salisbury Court, Fleet Street
<b>Coughlane, Lawrence</b>	—	Brick Lane, Old Street
<b>Courtauld, Louisa Perina, and Cowler, George</b>	Goldsmiths	N° 21, Cornhill
<b>Cox, James</b>	Goldworker	Shoe Lane
<b>Cox, John</b>	—	Offer Lane, Smithfield
<b>Cox, Robert Albion</b>	Goldsmith	Little Britain
<b>Cox, William</b>	—	Gray's Inn Lane
<b>Cox, William</b>	Goldsmith	Saint Paul's Church Yard
<b>Coyte, George</b>	Goldsmith	Catherine Street, Strand
<b>Cowdery, George</b>	Smallworker	Ryder's Court, Leicester Fields
<b>Crammilion, Hannab and Peter</b>	Watch Cafe Makers	Clerkenwell Green
<b>Crespell, Sebastian and James</b>	Platworkers	Whitcomb Street, Leicester Fields
<b>Creswell, Joseph</b>	Goldworker	Strand
<b>Cripps, Mark</b>	Platworker	Golden Ball, St. James's Street
<b>Crouch, John, and Hannam, Thomas</b>	Platworkers	N° 28, Giltspur Street
<b>Crouchbank, Robert</b>	Platworker	Old Jewry
<b>Crump, Francis</b>	Platworker	Gutter Lane
<b>Cunff, Jasper</b>	Goldworker	Salisbury Court
<b>D</b>		
<b>Daintry, Marmaduke</b>	Spoon Maker	Hartley Row, Hants
<b>Daniell, Jabez and Thomas</b>	Goldsmiths	Carey Lane
<b>Dart, John</b>	Goldsmith	N° 103, Minories
<b>Darvill, Edward</b>	Platworker	Wailing Street
<b>Davenport, Burrage</b>	Platworker	N° 6, Foster Lane
<b>Daufsey, William</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	Oxford Arms Passage, Warwick Lane
<b>Day, John</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	Christopher's Alley, Upper Moorfields
<b>Day, William</b>	—	Red Lion Court, Grub Street
<b>Day, John</b>	Platworker	N° 1, Love Lane, Wood Street
<b>Deacon, John</b>	—	Sweeting's Alley, Royal Exchange
<b>Dealtry, Thomas</b>	Hilt Maker	Old Bailey
<b>Deane, John</b>	—	Norman's Buildings, Old Street
<b>Deane, Thomas</b>	Buckle Maker	Highbury
<b>Dean, William</b>	—	Warwick Lane
<b>Dell, Martin</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	Bridges Street, Covent Garden
<b>Dean, William</b>	—	Oxford
<b>De Gruchy, John</b>	Goldsmith	White's Alley, Little Moorfields
<b>Denn, Bassill</b>	Ring Maker	Tooley Street, Southwark
<b>Denn, Bassill</b>	Buckle Maker	Cecil Court, St. Martin's Lane
<b>Dennison, Robert</b>	Buckle Maker	Fisher Street, Red Lion Square
<b>Dewall, John</b>	—	New Street Square
<b>Dellany, Samuel</b>	—	Old Belton Street, Long Acre
<b>Defoignes, Peter</b>	Goldworker	Angel Court, Throgmorton Street
<b>Dever, Frederick</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	N° 7, Tottenham Court Road
<b>Dewitt, Robert</b>	Spoon Maker	Patel Noffer Row
<b>Devonshire, Thomas</b>	Spoon Maker	N° 125, Aldersgate Street
<b>Devonshire, Israel</b>	Spoon Maker	Fleet Street
<b>Dobson, Edward</b>	—	Wigman, Lantashire
<b>Doughster, Thomas</b>	Watch Cafe Maker	Goßwell Street
<b>Domsdale, John</b>	Burton Maker	Quaker's Buildings, Smithfield
<b>Dorrel, Jane</b>	Goldworker	Queen Street, Golden Square
<b>Dreuff, Peter</b>	Goldworker	N° 6, Queen Buildings, Drury Lane
<b>Drewey, Richard</b>	Smallworker	Near the Blue Laff, Salisbury Court
<b>Drewey, George</b>	Goldworker	Near Great St. Helen's, Bishopgate Street
<b>Drewey, Thomas</b>	Smallworker	Saint Albans
<b>Drinkwater, Sandilands</b>	Haft Maker	Strand
<b>Drury, Drury</b>	Goldsmith	Wood Street
<b>Drysdale, John</b>	Smallworker	Little Britain
<b>Dunckerley, Charles</b>	Goldworker	Seven Dials
<b>Dunmont, Lewis</b>	Platworker	Green Street, Leicester Fields
<b>Dutton, Henry</b>	—	—
<b>E.</b>		
<b>Eggham, Stephen</b>	Platworker	Burleigh Street, Strand
<b>Eggham, Adrian</b>	Smallworker	Cross Keys Court, Little Britain
<b>Ebborne, Matthew</b>	Smallworker	Piffard Street, Hoxton
<b>Ellis, Thomas</b>	Platworker	Cow Cross
<b>Evans, George</b>	Buckle Maker	Fore Street

*Evans, James Morley*  
*Evans, Thomas*

Goldworker  
Spoon Maker

*Greek Street, Sobo*  
*Wood Street*

## F.

*Fair, Thomas*  
*Farran, John*  
*Faux, John, and Love, George*  
*Fearn, William*  
*Fayle, George*  
*Fayle, John*  
*Fearn, William*  
*Ferris, Matthew*  
*Ferron, Michael*  
*Fisher, Benjamin*  
*Fisher, William*  
*Flint, William*  
*Flower, Thomas*  
*Fenton, Matthew, and Creswick, Richard*  
*Fogelberg, Andrew*  
*Folkham, John*  
*Foot, John*  
*Ford, John, and Williams, John*  
*Ford, Joseph*  
*Foster, George*  
*Forsyter, Fleming*  
*Foster, John*  
*Foster, Thomas*  
*Foster, Thomas*  
*Foster, William*  
*Fox, Roberts*  
*Freeman, Thomas*  
*Freeman, Philip*  
*Finch, Joshua, and Spenderon, George*  
*French, John*  
*Frehfield, James*  
*Fry, John*  
*Fryer, Robert*

Haft Maker  
Goldworker  
Buckle Makers  
Spoon Maker  
Hilt Maker  
Ditto  
—  
Smallworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
—  
Plateworker  
Hilt Maker  
Buckle Maker  
—  
Plateworker  
Smallworker  
—  
Buckle Makers  
—  
Buckle Maker  
—  
—  
Hilt Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Spoon Maker  
—  
Plateworker  
Smallworker  
—  
Buckle Makers  
Plateworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldworker  
Plateworker

*Golden Lane*  
*Upper Moorfields*  
*Worship Street, Moorfields*  
*N° 75, Wood Street*  
*Dogwell Court, White Fryars*  
*N° 31, Wilderney Lane, Salisbury Court*  
*N° 5, Brownlow Street, Holborn*  
*Offer Lane, Smithfield*  
*Church Street, Sobo*  
*Sandwich, Kent*  
*N° 73, Little Britain*  
*Dogwell Court, White Friars*  
*Bell Yard, Temple Bar*  
—  
*Sheffield, Yorkshire*  
*Church Street, Sobo*  
*N° 25, Fore Street*  
*Aldergate Street*  
*Bath*  
*Robinood Court, Shoe Lane*  
*Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell*  
*N° 2, Orange Court, Red Lion Square*  
*Goswell Street*  
*N° 16, King's Head Court, Fetter Lane*  
*Pye Corner*  
*Without Bishopsgate*  
*Birmingham*  
*Westmoreland Buildings, Aldergate Street*  
*Baker's Row, Whitechapell*  
*Bristol*  
*Paul's Alley, Redcross Street*  
*Great Saint Andrew's Street, Seven Dials*  
*Bull and Mouth Street*  
*Gutter Lane*

## G.

*Garrard, William*  
*Gallant, Jane*  
*Gamon, Michael*  
*Garden, Phillips*  
*Gibbard, Thomas*  
*Gibbons, James*  
*Gignac, Benjamin*  
*Gladwin, Thomas*  
*Gilpin, Thomas*  
*Giles, George*  
*Gleaville, Richard*  
*Gleaville, Richard*  
*Gleaville, Richard*  
*Gimblet, John, and Vale, William*  
*Gillois, Peter*  
*Goofree, Samuel*  
*Godfrey, William*  
*Gosbell, Thomas*  
*Goslee, William*  
*Gould, James*  
*Gosling, Richard and Joseph*  
*Gottman, Daniel*  
*Gouyon, Peter*  
*Goulding, Joseph*  
*Grace, John*  
*Graham, James*  
*Gratrix, Edward*  
*Grantham, John*  
*Green, Thomas*  
*Gardner, Richard*  
*Greenall, John*  
*Griffith, Benjamin*  
*Grignon, Reynolds*  
*Garden, Benjamin*  
*Grundy, William*

Haft Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldworker  
Goldsmith  
Watch Cafe Maker  
—  
Plateworker  
Plateworker  
Goldsmith  
—  
Smallworker  
Smallworker  
Plateworker  
Watch Cafe Makers  
Plateworker  
Bucklemaker  
—  
—  
Buckle Maker  
Candlestick Maker  
Spoon Makers  
—  
Watch Cafe Maker  
—  
Buckle Maker  
Buckle Maker  
—  
Goldworker  
Buckle Maker  
Plateworker  
—  
—  
Goldworker  
Goldworker  
Plateworker

*Noble Street*  
*Smart's Buildings, Holborn*  
*N° 3, Paul's Court, Hogan Lane*  
*Marybone*  
*Syaker's Buildings, Smithfield*  
*Whitecross Alley*  
*Dean's Court, Saint Martin's le Grand*  
*Houndsditch*  
*Serle Street, Lincoln's Inn*  
*in the Curtain, Holwell Mount*  
*Great Bell Alley, Coleman Street*  
*opposite Saint Clement's Church Yard*  
*Oxford*  
*Birmingham*  
*Wardour Street, Sobo*  
*Whitecross Alley, Moorfields*  
*Castle Street, near Shoreditch Church*  
*Christopher's Court, Saint Martin's le Grand*  
*Ellis's Row, Cold Bath Square*  
*Ave Maria Lane*  
*Cornhill*  
*Millman Street, Bedford Row*  
*Theobald's Row*  
*Great Arthur Street, Golden Lane*  
*N° 12, Newgate Street*  
*Whitecross Alley, Moorfields*  
*Birmingham*  
*Newbury, Berks*  
*Birmingham*  
*Archer Street, Haymarket*  
*Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields*  
*Bond Street*  
*Queen Street, Seven Dials*  
*Noble Street*  
*Fetter Lane*

# of conducting ASSAY OFFICES.

31

Gurney, John

Lower Street, Iflington

H

Hall, Thomas	Goldworker	Denmark Court, Strand
Hallows, Thomas	Goldworker	near Southampton Street, Strand
Harmer, James	Buckle Maker	Wharton's Court, Holborn Bars
Hankins, Thomas	—	Cutler's Street, Houndsditch
Harbert, Samuel	—	Ironmonger Row, Old Street
Hardy, John	Watch Cafe Maker	N° 8, Bridgewater Square
Hancock, William	—	Sheffield
Harding, John	—	Portsmouth
Harding, James and Henry	—	Salisbury Court
Harding, Thomas	Goldsmith	Minorities
Harper, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	Great St. Andrew's Street Seven Dials
Harrison, George	Ditto	Goulston Square, Whitechapel
Harrach, Thomas	Goldworker	Pall Mall
Harrison, Margaret	—	Land's Court, Clerkenwell Green
Harrison, Robert	—	Salisbury Court, Fleet Street
Hallsworth, Henry	Platworker	N° 24, Bull and Mouth Street
Harrison, William	Buckle Maker	Monkwell Street
Harvey, John, jun.	Smallworker	Bear Lane, Christ Church Surry
Harvey, John	Ditto	Great Kirby Street
Harris, John	Watch Cafe Maker	Gough Square
Haynes, Henry	Platworker	Little Windmill Street
Hatton, Samuel	Buckle Maker	Rose Street, Soho
Hancker, L.	Goldworker	Little Cranborn Alley
Hawkins, Benjamin	Goldworker	Fryingpan Alley, Wood Street
Heardren, Nicholas	Spoon Maker	Pick-ax Street
Hebden, Luke	—	Princes Street, Barbican
Hedges, Samuel	—	Salisbury Court, Fleet Street
Hedges, Stephen	Goldworker	Salisbury Court, Fleet Street
Hefer, Maurice	Goldworker	Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell
Hemming, George	Goldsmith	Piccadilly
Hemming, Thomas	Goldsmith	New Bond Street
Hennell, Robert	Platworker	Foster Lane
Herbert, Samuel	Platworker	Stratford Green
Higgs, Edward	Buckle Maker	Pitfield Street, Hoxton
Hill, Charles	—	New Gravel Lane, Southwark
Hirst, John	Hatmaker	Far Field, near Sheffield, Yorkshir
Hobdell, Henry	Goldworker	Silver Street
Hodge, Thomas	—	Red Cross Street
Hogg, Andrew	Goldworker	Northumberland Court, Strand
Holmes, William	Platworker	at N° 12, Clerkenwell Green
Holland, John	Goldsmith	Bishopgate Street
Holmes, Edward	Goldworker	N° 9, Foster Lane
Homer, Mark	—	Birmingham
Hooper, Giles	Watch Cafe Maker	Gravel Street, Hatton Garden
Hoyley, John	Candlestick Maker	Haberdashers Walk, Hoxton
Horwood, Nathaniel	Platworker	Dean Street, Soho
Hougham, Charles	Buckle Maker	Aldergate Street
How, William	Buckle Maker	N° 30, Quaker's Buildings
Howard, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Old Bailey
Howard, Edlin	Smallworker	Little New Street, Shoe Lane
Howell, Thomas	Platworker	Bath
Housoun, George	Goldsmith	Fleet Street
Hocufe, William	Goldworker	Temple Bar
Hughes, James	Ditto	Prince's Square, Ratcliffe Highway
Humphris, John	Smallworker	Church Lane, Newington Butts
Huntley, John	Goldworker	near the Bank
Hunt, James	Ditto	King Street, Cheapside
Hunter, Charles	Smallworker	Baker's Row, Whitechapel
Hunter, George	Ditto	Shoe Lane
Hunter, William	Goldworker	Lombard Street
Hutchens, John	—	Bell Alley, Goswell Street
Hyatt, John	—	Little Britain
Hyde, Thomas	Smallworker	Gutter Lane

J

Jackson, James	—	Birmingham
Jackson, John	Spoon Maker	Little Britain
Jackson, Orlando	Platworker	Haymarket
Jackson, Thomas	Smallworker	Mutton Lane, Clerkenwell Green
Jacob, Dennis	Goldsmith	Charing Cross
Jacobi, John	Platworker	Spur Street, Leicesters Fields
Jacobs, Moses	—	Duke's Place
James, Edward	—	Johnson's Court, Fleet Street

Vol. III.

James;

James, Thomas	—	Minorities
Jarman, Samuel	Spoon Maker	Great Newport Street
Jarratt, John	—	Ozier Lane, Smithfield
Jay, Edward	Plateworker	Salisbury Court
Jebb, George	—	Portugal Street; Lincoln's Inn Srand
Jefferys, Nathaniel	Goldsmith	—
Jennings, James	—	Bullhead Court, Newgate Street
Innocent, John	Spoon Maker	Little Newport Street, Sobo
Jongms, Gerard	—	Saint John's Street
Jones, John and William	—	Middle Moorfields
Jones, William	—	Creed Lane
Jones, James	—	Noble Street
Jones, Thomas	Plateworker	Bell's Buildings, Salisbury Court
Johnson, John	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 7, Maiden Lane, Wood Street
Johnson, James	Ditto	Carey Lane
Johnson, Peter	Smallworker	Newport Street, Leicester Fields
Joyce, Stephen	Goldworker	King Street, Sobo
Irvine, John	Spoon Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 127, Minorities
Johnson, Alexander	Plateworker	Old Jewry
Justis, Thomas	Buckle Maker	Well Yard, Little Britain
K.		
Kandler, Frederick	Plateworker	Jernyn Street
Keays, Joseph	—	Cock Lane, Snow Hill
Kendall, Luke	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 26, Wood Street
Kendrick, William	Goldworker	Queen Street, Seven Dials
Kentelber, John, and Groves, } Thomas	Plateworkers	Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell
Kentish, John	Goldworker	Cornhill
Kerfish, William	Smallworker	Aldergate Street
Key, Samuel	Ditto	Fountain Court, Cheapside
Kidder, John	Plateworker	Haddon Street, near Swallow Street
King, James	Goldworker	Kenington Grove
King, John	Plateworker	N <sup>o</sup> 73, Little Britain
King, William	Watch Cafe Maker	St. John's Square, Clerkenwell
Kingman, James	Goldworker	Lendenball Street
Kniman, William	Hilt Maker	East Harding Street
Knightly, Samuel	Buckle Maker	East Smithfield
L.		
Laithwait, John	Watch Cafe Maker	Cold Bath Street
Laithwait, John	—	Liverpool
Lamb, John	Spoon Maker	Fetter Lane
Lambert, Thomas	Smallworker	Hand Court, Holborn
Lancaster, William	Ditto	Noble Street
Land, Henry	—	N <sup>o</sup> 226, Southwark
Lansford, Thomas	Plateworker	N <sup>o</sup> 26, Angel Street, St. Martin's le Grand
Lansford, John and Seville, John	Plateworkers	St. Martin's le Grand
Laurence, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	George Court, St. John's Lane
Laurence, Thomas, jun. and Sage, } James	Watch Cafe Makers	Francis Court, Saint John's Lane
Lawley, Francis	Hilt Maker	Green Arbor Court
Lawler, John	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 20, Fleet Street
Layton, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	Dean Street, Fetter Lane
Leadbetter, John Gibson	Buckle Maker	Monkwell Street
Leadbetter, Charles	Goldworker	Oat Lane
Leapidge, Edward	Smallworker	Purfe Court, Old Change
Lavy, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Saffron Hill
Lee, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Gwynn's Buildings, Ifington
Le Francois, Abraham	—	Porter Street, Sobo
Lijune, Joseph	Goldworker	Litchfield Street, Sobo
Lejage, Augustus	Goldsmith	Great Suffolk Street, Charing Crofs
Leffourgon, Aaron	Smallworker	Clement's Inn Passage, Clare Market
Lewis, Joseph	Buckle Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 38, Foster Lane
Liddiard, Thomas	Goldworker	St. Paul's Church Yard
Lilly, John	—	Hedge Lane
Lilly, William	Buckle Maker	Smithfield Bars
Lintbeait, Daniel	Watch Cafe Maker	Mutton Lane, Clerkenwell
Lyster, Jeremiah	—	Old Fish Street
Littlesod, Samuel	Goldsmith	N <sup>o</sup> 9, Lombard Street
Lork, Edward	—	Oxford
Lombard, Daniel	Watch Cafe Maker	Tottenham Court Road
London, William	—	Gutter Lane
Lord, William	Watch Cafe Maker	Silver Street
Lovidge, Thomas	Goldsmith	Newbury, Berks
Lowe, Edward	Smallworker	Mortlake, Surry

Lucas, Benjamin  
Lakin, William

Goldworker

Brabant Court, Philpot Lane  
N° 97, Cornhill

M

Mack Coull, John  
M'Duff, Laurence  
M'Farlen, John  
Maddocks, William  
Makemaid, Christopher  
Mallison, Thomas  
Malpas, Joseph  
Marks, Isaac  
Marshall, John  
Marson, James  
Malquerier, Lewis  
Maffey, Samuel  
May, Richard  
Meach, Richard  
Meadbursh, William  
Mears, William  
Mieg, Charles  
Meriton, Samuel  
Merz, Lauret  
Metbam, Robert  
Meynell, Francis  
Miller, Ann  
Mince, John  
Miliere, John, and Jones, Dyll  
Moody, William  
Moor, Edward  
Moore, John  
Moore, John  
Moore, William  
Mordcau, alias Mountigue, Benjamin  
Moreland, George  
Morelon, Andrew  
Morecock, John  
Morisset, James  
Morris, Henry  
Morrison, Richard  
Morson, Richard, and Stephen-  
son, Benjamin  
Moulton, Samuel  
Mowden, David  
Mannier, Peter  
Muir, Peter

Plateworker  
Buckle Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Plateworker  
Goldsmith  
Goldworker  
Buckle Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Ditto  
Goldworker  
Smallworker  
Ditto  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldworker  
Smallworker  
Goldworker  
Plateworker  
Buckle Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Plateworkers  
Smallworker  
Goldworker  
Plateworker  
Smallworker  
Buckle Maker  
Ditto  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Goldworker  
Goldsmith  
Ditto  
Ditto  
Buckle Maker  
Smallworker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldsmith

near Porter's Block, Smithfield  
Prujean Court, Old Bailey  
near Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street  
Field Lane  
Sboe Lane  
Cornhill  
Wood Street  
Chippinham, Wilts  
Westmorland Buildings, Aldersgate Street  
Prince's Street, Upper Moorfields  
Coventry Street, Piccadilly  
N° 8, Foster Lane  
Quaker's Buildings, Smithfield Bars  
N° 17, George's Court, Clerkenwell  
Blue Anchor Alley, White Cross Street  
Saint Martin's le Grand  
Porter Street  
Foster Lane  
N° 4, Plover Court, Carey Street  
N° 5, Butcher Hall Lane  
Kingsland Road  
Bristol  
Mitchell Street, Old Street  
N° 6, Clerkenwell Green  
Berwick Street, Saint James's  
Gracuchurch Street  
Fleet Street  
Poland Street, Sobo  
Saint Ann's Lane  
Clerkenwell Green  
Moorfields  
Kingsgate Street, Holborn  
Ropemaker's Alley, Moorfields  
Denmark Street, Sobo  
Fleet Street  
Cheapside  
Ludgate Hill  
N° 18, Little Britain  
Aldle Street  
Fritb Street, Sobo  
Coventry Street

N

Nash, Thomas  
Naylor, John  
Nicklin, John  
Nicball, Robert  
Norman, Philip  
Norman, Richard  
Nuttall, Robert

Buckle Maker  
Spoon Maker  
Smallworker  
Plateworker  
Button Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker

Dalton, near Hackney  
Charles Street, Bridgewater Square  
The Curtain, near Holywell Mount  
Christopher's Court, Saint Martin's le Grand  
Saint Martin's Lane  
Jerusalem Court, Saint John's Square  
Kirby Street, Hatton Garden

O

Osborne, Jonas  
Osborne, Thomas

Spoon Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker

N° 18, Little Britain  
Sbert's Gardens

P

Packwood, John  
Padmore, George  
Pack, Nathaniel  
Palmer, Daniel  
Palmer, Job  
Pargeter, Richard  
Palmer, Richard  
Pantin, Lewis  
Parker, John, and Wakelin, Edward  
Parker, John  
Parker, Reuben  
Parr, Thomas  
Parr, Richard

Buckle Maker  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldworker  
Goldsmiths  
Watch Cafe Maker  
Goldsmith  
Buckle Maker

Goftwell Street  
Fritb Street, Sobo  
Godliman Street, Doctors Commons  
Birmingham  
N° 3, Coppice Row, Cold Bath Fields  
near Banbury, Oxon  
Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell  
N° 45, Fleet Street  
Panton Street  
High Holborn  
Birmingham  
Whetstone  
Parfon's Court, Bride Lane

Payne, John	Goldsmith	Cheapside
Paris, Albertus	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 3, Farnival's Inn Court
Payne, Southern	Watch Cafe Maker	Bridgewater Square
Peacock, James	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 103, Minories
Peacey, William	Watch Cafe Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 19, Great Ruffel Street
Pennyfeather, Henry	Ditto	Prujean Court, Old Bailey
Penyon, William	Spoon Maker	Noble Street
Pierce, Thomas	—	Bristol
Perkins, Jonathan	Buckle Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 5, Winchester Court, Monkwell Street
Perry, James	Hilt Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 131, Chancery Lane
Perry, John	—	Wood Street
Perry, Thomas	—	Shoe Lane
Pepper, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	Jilly Pott Lane
Phillips, John	Goldworker	Cold Bath Square
Phillips, Levy	Buckle Maker	Spark's Court, Duke's Place
Phipps, James	Platworker	Gutter Lane
Piccioli, Stephen	Goldworker	Denmark Street, Sobo
Pickett, William	Goldsmith	Ludgate Hill
Picott, Thomas	—	Portsmouth
Pickering, John	—	opposite the Bull and Gate, Holborn
Piercy, Robert	Platworker	Foster Lane
Pinder, William	Buckle Maker	near Featherstone Street, Bunhill Row
Pitts, Thomas	Platworker	Air Street, St. James's
Pitney, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	Featherstone Street
Platt, Robert	Smallworker	New Turnstile, Holborn
Plummer, John	Ditto	N <sup>o</sup> 5, Great Old Bailey
Plummer, William	Platworker	Gutter Lane
Plumpton, Henry	Smallworker	near Wapping Old Stairs
Plumpton, James	Watch Cafe Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 13, Oyster Lane, Smithfield
Pont, John	Haft Maker	Maiden Lane
Portal, Abraham	Goldsmith	Ludgate Hill
Portal, William	Haft Maker	Orange Street, Leicester Fields
Potticary, Christopher	Watch Cafe Maker	Silver Street, Bridgewater Square
Powell, George	—	N <sup>o</sup> 9, Haberdasher's Walk, Hoxton
Powell, Thomas	—	Noble Street, St. Luke's
Powell, Thomas	Platworker	near Craig's Court, Charing Cross
Poynton, Elizabeth	Buckle Maker	Old Street Square
Pretty, William	Watch Cafe Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 6, Trinity Court, Aldersgate Street
Price, Edmund	Goldworker	N <sup>o</sup> 17, Maiden Lane, Wood Street
Priest, William, and James	Platworkers	White Cross Street
Priest, Samuel, and Rowley, John	—	Crown Court, Charter House Lane
Pullin, David	Watch Cafe Maker	Coleman Street

Q  
Quaintock, John

— Platworker Woodstreet

R

Radburn, John	Hilt Maker	New Street, Fetter Lane
Ralph, William	Buckle Maker	Saffron Hill
Renalet, John	Goldworker	Upper Moorfields
Rowle, William	Hilt Maker	Corner of Cattle Court, Strand
Rowlings, Richard	—	Grafton Street, Sobo
Raymond, John	Button Maker	Islington
Ray, Thomas	Watch Cafe Maker	Bridewell Precinct
Read, Edward	Smallworker	N <sup>o</sup> 2, Oat Lane
Read, Thomas, and Smith, Thomas	Buckle Makers	N <sup>o</sup> 17, Bartholomew Close
Reading, John	Watch Cafe Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 26, Sea Coal Lane
Reaugh, Mary	Ditto	Compton Street, Sobo
Redrick, Richard	Ditto	Aldermanbury
Rew, Robert	—	Greenhill's Rents
Reynolds, John	Hilt Maker	N <sup>o</sup> 25, New Street, Fetter Lane
Reynolds, William	Platworker	Swallow Street, St. James's
Ribouleau, Lafon	Watch Cafe Maker	Ozner Lane, Smithfield
Richards, James	Ditto	Lamb Street, Spital Fields
Richards, John	Ditto	Bridgewater Square
Richardson, James	—	Greenhill's Rents, Smithfield
Richardson, Mary	Smallworker	Old Street Square
Rich, John	Buckle Maker	St. John's Square, Clerkenwell
Riviere, Isaac	Ditto	Tottenham Court Road
Robertson, William	Smallworker	Tottenham Court Road
Robotham, John	Platworker	Newport Street
Rogers, Robert	—	Sheffield, Yorkshire
Rogers, William	Goldsmith	Lombard Street
Roker, Philip	—	Ludgate Hill
Robinson, John	Spoon Maker	Bishopgate Street
	Goldsmith	New Bond Street

<i>Raker, Matthew</i>	Spoon Maker	Greenwich
<i>Romer, Emick</i>	Plateworker	N° 123, High Holborn
<i>Romer, John</i>	Plateworker	Compton Street, Soho
<i>Romilly, Peter</i>	Goldworker	King Street, Soho
<i>Roohy, Benjamin</i>	Ditto	Basing Lane
<i>Roper, William</i>	—	Saint Martin's Lane
<i>Rofs, Robert</i>	Spoon Maker	Bell's Buildings, Salisbury Court
<i>Rowe, John</i>	Plateworker	Gutter Lane
<i>Rowe, Thomas</i>	—	St. Dunstan's, Tower Street
<i>Ruffin, Francis</i>	Goldworker	Cripplegate
<i>Rugg, Richard</i>	Plateworker	St. John's Square, Clerkenwell
<i>Ruffin, Elias</i>	Goldworker	Suffolk Street
<i>Ruffel, John</i>	Ditto	Northumberland Street, Strand
<i>Ruffel, Peter</i>	Smallworker	Pall Mall
<i>Ruffell John</i>	—	St. John's Street, Clerkenwell
<i>Ryder, Mary</i>	Smallworker	Wyck Street
S		
<i>Sadler, John</i>	—	near Brownlow Street, Drury Lane
<i>Sallam, Robert</i>	Plateworker	Walling Street
<i>Saffory, John</i>	Goldworker	Tokenbouje Yard
<i>Salmon, Robert</i>	Spoon Maker	Saint Martin's Church Yard
<i>Samuel, Mordecai</i>	—	Portsmouth Common
<i>Sanders, William</i>	Smallworker	Old Bailey
<i>Saunders, Alexander</i>	Plateworker	Saint Martin's Church Yard
<i>Bardet, Henry</i>	Goldworker	High Holborn
<i>Sarney, John</i>	Plateworker	Gutter Lane
<i>Schuppe, John</i>	Ditto	New Rents, Saint Martin's le Grand
<i>Satchwell, Thomas</i>	Goldworker	N° 20, Pater Noster Row
<i>Savory, Joseph</i>	—	N° 24, Old Fish Street
<i>Scales, Edward</i>	Goldsmith	N° 33, Strand
<i>Seaton, George</i>	Goldworker	Gutter Lane
<i>Sharp, William Jennings</i>	—	Fleet Street
<i>Sharrat, Thomas</i>	Smallworker	Ozier Lane, Smithfield
<i>Shaw, William</i>	Plateworker	Bishopgate Street
<i>Shelley, Samuel</i>	Goldworker	Christopher's Court, Bartholomew Close
<i>Shepherd, Thomas</i>	Smallworker	Bull and Mouth Street
<i>Shilley, Samuel</i>	Buckle Maker	Blue Court, Saffron Hill
<i>Skeen, William</i>	Plateworker	Saint Ann's Lane
<i>Simkist, Richard</i>	Goldworker	Maiden Lane, Wood Street
<i>Simons, William</i>	Spoon Maker	N° 6, Barbican
<i>Simons, Barnet</i>	Smallworker	Mouldmaker's Row, Saint Martin's le Grand
<i>Simpson, Lancelot</i>	—	Great Turnstile, Holborn
<i>Simpson, Richard</i>	Watch Case Maker	Albion's Buildings, Aldergate Street
<i>Sloden, William</i>	—	Bristol
<i>Smith, Arthur</i>	—	Liverpool
<i>Smith, Benjamin</i>	—	Blue Anchor Alley, Bunhill Row
<i>Smith, Daniel, and Sharp, Robert</i>	Plateworkers	Aldermanbury
<i>Smith, James</i>	Goldsmith	Fleet Street
<i>Smith, George</i>	Buckle Maker	Hogan Lane
<i>Smith, George</i>	Spoon Maker	N° 110, Wood Street
<i>Smith, Ann, and Appleton, Na- thaniel</i>	Smallworkers	Cox's Court, Aldergate Street
<i>Smith, John</i>	—	Birmingham
<i>Smith, John</i>	—	Blue Anchor Alley, Bunhill Row
<i>Smith, Thomas</i>	Smallworker	Wood Street
<i>Smith, William</i>	Goldsmith	Cheapside
<i>Sones, Thomas</i>	Watch Case Maker	Lilly Post Lane
<i>Spender, George</i>	—	Bradford, Wilts
<i>Spillbury, Francis</i>	Plateworker	N° 24, Gutter Lane
<i>Squire, William</i>	Smallworker	Wardour Street, Soho
<i>Stamp, James</i>	Plateworker	Cheapside
<i>Stead, Sutton</i>	Smallworker	Maiden Lane
<i>Steward, Joseph</i>	Ditto	Wood Street
<i>Stibwell, Thomas</i>	Watch Case Maker	Bride Lane
<i>Stirling, John</i>	Goldworker	N° 4, Queen Square, Bartholomew Close
<i>Stone, Edward</i>	Buckle Maker	Tbame, Oxfordshire
<i>Storcy, Charles</i>	Goldworker	Sydney's Alley, Leicesters Fields
<i>Stubbs, John</i>	Watch Case Maker	Great Arthur Street
<i>Sudell, William</i>	Smallworker	Monkwell Street
<i>Sutton, Joseph</i>	Goldsmith	New Street, Covent Garden
<i>Swaen, Samuel, and Hill, Charles</i>	—	New Gravel Lane, Southwark
<i>Swift, John</i>	Plateworker	Noble Street
<i>Swift, Thomas</i>	Haft Maker	Old Bailey

## T

Talbot, Peter  
 Taylor, Elizabeth  
 Taylor, Peter  
 Tait, William, Junior  
 Taylor, Robert  
 Taylor, Thomas  
 Taylor, Thomas  
 Taylor, Samuel  
 Taylor, Trevelion  
 Terry, Charles  
 Therenun, Frances  
 Thompday, Mark  
 Thomas, William  
 Thomas, William  
 Thorn, James  
 Toolings, Constantine  
 Thorne, Thomas  
 Thurlie, Francis  
 Timbrell, William  
 Tokett, Marmaduke  
 Tooke, Elizabeth  
 Toulman, Edmund  
 Townhend, William  
 Tripp, Job  
 Triftram, Benjamin  
 Tudor, Henry  
 Tuite, William  
 Turner, John  
 Turner, John  
 Turner, Joseph  
 Turlon, William  
 Tyas, Thomas, Junior  
 Tweedie, Walter

Goldworker  
 Buckle Maker  
 Goldfinch  
 Spoon Maker  
 Smallworker  
 Buckle Maker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Buckle Maker  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 Smallworker  
 Goldworker  
 —  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Smallworker  
 Hilt Maker  
 —  
 Goldworker  
 Spoon Maker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Buckle Maker  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 —  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 —  
 Smallworker  
 —  
 Spoon Maker

Red Lion Street, Holborn  
 Hogan Alley  
 Strand  
 Haberdasher's Square, Grub Street  
 Calbarine Wheel Alley, Bishopsgate Street  
 Chequer Alley, Bunhill Row  
 White Cross Street  
 Maiden Lane, Wood Street  
 Rotten Row, Old Street  
 Aldersgate Street  
 Spur Street, Leicester Fields  
 Middle Moorfields  
 Garlick Hill  
 Goldsmith's Street, Gough Square  
 Colchester  
 Duke's Court, St. Martin's Lane  
 Wood Street  
 New Street, Fetter Lane  
 West Smithfield  
 Wardour Street, Soho  
 Silver Street, Wood Street  
 Mouldmakers Row, St. Martin's  
 Bath  
 King Street, Westminster  
 Hogan Lane  
 Sheffield, Yorkfire  
 Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields  
 Birmingham  
 Quaker's Buildings, Cow Cross  
 Chequer Alley, Bunhill Row  
 Parish Street, Horsleydown, Southwark  
 Sheffield, Yorkfire  
 Holwell Street, Strand

## V

Ven, Thomas  
 Vere, John Henry  
 Vickerman, John  
 Vincent, Edmund  
 Vedeau, Anne  
 Vincent, Philip  
 Verlander, John  
 Vincent, William  
 Underwood, John  
 Vonbam, Frederick

Watch Cafe Maker  
 Goldworker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Ditto  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Ditto  
 Goldworker  
 Plateworker

Leopard's Court, Baldwin's Gardens  
 No 48, Lombard Street  
 Bridgewater Gardens  
 King's Arms Court, Ludgate Hill  
 Green Street, Leicester Fields  
 Little Earl Street, Seven Dials  
 Brick Lane, Old Street  
 Saint Ann's Lane  
 Noble Street  
 George Street, York Buildings

## W

Waggett, John  
 Wallis, Thomas  
 Walpole, Henry  
 Waliser, Herman James  
 Waters, James  
 Watkins, John  
 Watton, Richard Lewis  
 Waymitch, Francis  
 Weldring, John  
 Webb, Thomas  
 Wells, Edmund  
 Weston, William  
 Westray, John  
 Wheat, Samuel  
 Wheritt, Robert  
 Wherham, Thomas  
 White, Fuller  
 White, Samuel  
 Whitford, Samuel  
 Whitford, William  
 Whyte, David  
 Wibur, James  
 Wigan, Thomas  
 Wigby, James  
 Wilkinson, Thomas  
 Willots, Moses  
 Williams, John  
 Wilson, Thomas

Smallworker  
 Plateworker  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 Goldworker  
 Smallworker  
 Watch Cafe Maker  
 Smallworker  
 —  
 Plateworker  
 Goldfinch  
 —  
 Spoonmaker  
 Smallworker  
 Goldworker  
 —  
 Goldsmith  
 Plateworker  
 Ditto  
 Buckle Maker  
 Ditto  
 Plateworker  
 Ditto  
 Buckle Maker  
 —  
 Buckle Maker  
 —  
 Buckle Maker  
 Ditto

Queen Street, Southwark  
 Monkwell Street  
 near the King's Road, Gray's Inn Lane  
 No 8, Sparo Fields, Clerkenwell  
 Ludgate Street  
 Giltspur Street  
 Hoxton Market Place  
 King's Arms Court, Ludgate Hill  
 opposite St. Clement's Church, Strand  
 Colchester, Suffolk  
 Bolt Court, Fleet Street  
 Silver Street, Wood Street  
 Little Britain  
 Maiden Lane  
 Great Warner Street, Cold Bath Fields  
 Fleet Street  
 Noble Street  
 Oat Lane  
 Saint Martin's Le Grand  
 Salisbury Court  
 No 19, Little Britain  
 Tooley Street  
 Brifol  
 Carry Lane  
 Pear Tree Street, Old Street  
 Poultry  
 Bath  
 Deptford, Kent



Winifore, John	—	—	Saint John's Square, Clerkenwell
Winter, John	—	—	Sheffield, in Yorkshire
Winter, William	Goldworker	—	N <sup>o</sup> 21, Bunhill Row
Wargman, Gabriel	Ditto	—	N <sup>o</sup> 14, Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell
Wilbers, William	—	—	Turk's Head Court, Golden Square
Wood, Samuel	Plateworker	—	Soutgate
Wood, Christopher Fy, and Fil- kin, Thomas	Spoon Makers	—	Battersea, Surry
Woodhouse, Thomas	—	—	Hermitage
Worboys, Arthur	Goldworker	—	Wine Office Court, Fleet Street
Worthington, William	Ditto	—	N <sup>o</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> , Fleet Street
Wotton, Richard Lewis	Smallworker	—	Hoxton Market Place
Wright, Charles	Plateworker	—	Ave Maria Lane
Wright, James	—	—	Birmingham
Wright, John	Watch Cafe Maker	—	Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell
Wright, Paul	Goldworker	—	N <sup>o</sup> 12, Fetter Lane
Wright, Sacheverel	—	—	Noble Street, Saint Luke's
Wynne, Thomas	—	—	Bath
Y			
York, Edward	—	—	Cambridge
York, Thomas	—	—	Fleet Market
Young, James	Plateworker	—	Aldergate Street

Fendall Rusforth,  
Richard Hughes.

London, March 8 1773.

An ACCOUNT of the Weight of all the Gold Plate and Silver Plate assayed and marked at the Assay Office in Goldsmiths Hall, London, for Seven Years, ending the Twenty-ninth Day of May now last past; distinguishing each Year.

Gold Plate.				Silver Plate.			
Years.	lb.	oz.	dwt. gr.	lb.	oz.	dwt.	
1766	—	552	8 1 20	—	94,232	11 3	
1767	—	574	4 7 15	—	101,603	10 11	
1768	—	580	— 6 13	—	95,909	2 10	
1769	—	570	5 16 21	—	98,011	4 19	
1770	—	516	1 13 19	—	98,267	8 16	
1771	—	597	1 11 13	—	99,861	8 17	
1772	—	535	4 10 3	—	104,641	4 15	
Total	—	3,926	2 8 8	—	692,528	3 11	

Fendall Rusforth,  
Richard Hughes.

London, March 8th 1773.

An ACCOUNT of the Weight of all the Gold Plate and Silver Plate broken and defaced at the Assay Office in Goldsmiths Hall, London, for Seven Years, ending the 29th Day of May now last past; distinguishing each Year.

Gold Plate.				Silver Plate.			
Years.	lb.	oz.	dwt. gr.	lb.	oz.	dwt.	
1766	—	6	10 8 15	—	2,227	2 2	
1767	—	2	1 5 3	—	870	1 14	
1768	—	1	5 12 4	—	1,137	11 6	
1769	—	9	4 15 11	—	1,046	5 18	
1770	—	12	— 14 —	—	986	3 16	
1771	—	11	8 9 —	—	1,052	4 16	
1772	—	5	11 13 3	—	1,082	9 4	
Total	—	49	7 7 12	—	8,413	2 16	

Fendall Rusforth,  
Richard Hughes.

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup> 2.

London, March 25th 1773.

An ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Gold Plate and Silver Plate broken at the Assay Office at Goldsmiths Hall, London, from the 23d of May 1771 to the 29th of May 1772; distinguishing each Person's Name and Place of Abode to whom such Plate belonged, and the Quantities respectively belonging to each Person.

### GOLD PLATE.

Persons Names.	—	Places of Abode.	—	—	—	lb. oz. dwt. gr.
A						
AVELINE, Daniel	—	Denmark Street, Soho	—	—	—	1 2 1 11
B						
Bayne, John	—	N <sup>o</sup> 16 Bartholomew Clofe	—	—	—	2 13 18
Bell, William	—	Rolls Buildings	—	—	—	16 —
Bourne, John, and Moore, Thomas	—	Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, and Bartholomew Clofe	—	—	—	1 4 6
C						
Grammilion, Hannab, and Peter	—	Clerkenwell Green	—	—	—	3 7 6

F Ferron,

Persons Names.	Places of Abode.	lb.	oz.	dwt.	grs.
<b>F</b>					
Ferron, Michael	Church Street, Sobo	—	—	2	—
Fry, John	Bull and Mouth Street	—	—	2	19 8
<b>H</b>					
Hooper, Giles	Gravel Street, Hatton Garden	—	—	3	5 —
<b>I</b>					
Jobnston, James	Carey Lane	—	—	1	19 18
<b>K</b>					
Kinman, William	East Harding Street	—	—	3	5 2
<b>L</b>					
Lambwait, John	Cold Bath Street	—	—	2	6 —
Layton, Thomas	Dean Street, Fetter Lane	—	—	7	13 12
<b>M</b>					
Marson, James	Prince's Street, Upper Moorfields	—	—	2	3 10
<b>P</b>					
Palmer, Richard	Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell	—	—	6	7 18
Phillips, John	Cold Bath Square	—	—	3	8 6
<b>R</b>					
Realy, James	Compton Street, Sobo	—	—	5	16 12
<b>W</b>					
Wild, Edward	N <sup>o</sup> 11, Water Lane, Fleet Street	—	—	7	15 —
Winter, William	N <sup>o</sup> 21, Bunhill Row	—	—	—	10 12
		<hr/>			
		5 11 13 3			

## SILVER PLATE.

		lb.	oz.	dwt.
<b>A</b>				
Aldridge, Edward	George Street, St. Martin's le Grand	—	—	2 — 7
Aldridge, William	Red Lion Passage, Holborn	—	—	— 4 —
Allen, John	Caribuan Street	—	—	3 4 6
Allen, William	Little Barbolomew Close	—	—	6 4 13
Arnold, Thomas	N <sup>o</sup> 89, London Wall	—	—	— 11 7
<b>B</b>				
Baker, John	N <sup>o</sup> 5, Old Bailey	—	—	21 10 6
Barrett, William	N <sup>o</sup> 1, Adde Street	—	—	2 4 16
Barrier, Abraham and Ducom-	Raibbone Place	—	—	1 3 —
mon Louis		—	—	—
Battelor, Philip	Great Turnstile, Holborn	—	—	18 — 14
Billinghurst, Henry	Aldersgate Street	—	—	2 4 6
Bingey, John	Little Britain	—	—	1 2 11
Binley, Margaret	Gutter Lane	—	—	1 11 1
Biron, Christopher	Aldersgate Street	—	—	— 5 —
Botevyle, William Henry	Clare Court, Drury Lane	—	—	7 4 18
Bourne, John and Moore, Thomas	Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, and Barbolomew Close	—	—	9 8 18
Bowen, Thomas	N <sup>o</sup> 19, Albion's Buildings	—	—	22 11 1
Bromfield, William	John's Court, Cow Lane	—	—	— 3 6
Burrows, George	Clerkenwell Close	—	—	18 9 12
Burton, William	Bridgewater Square	—	—	1 — 4
Butcher, William	Skinner's Lane, Old Street	—	—	— 6 16
<b>C</b>				
Callard, Judith	King Street, St. Ann's	—	—	2 4 11
Catt, John	Bridgewater Gardens	—	—	3 1 —
Cattell, William	Bull Head Court, Jewin Street	—	—	9 2 2
Chatener, William and Thomas	Pater Noster Row	—	—	21 6 1
Chazener, Thomas	Pater Noster Row	—	—	48 7 2
Chester, Samuel	Pear Tree Court, Clerkenwell	—	—	1 1 2
Clarke, Charles	Featherstone Street	—	—	1 5 16
Collings, William	N <sup>o</sup> 3, Fell Street	—	—	— 9 12
Cooper, Benjamin	Highb Holborn	—	—	10 10 5
Cox, William	Gray's Inn Lane	—	—	1 4 10
Cranmilton, Hannah and Peter	Clerkenwell Green	—	—	1 4 17
Cresspell, Sebastian and James	Whitcomb Street, Leicester Fields	—	—	11 8 13

D Dawson,

Persons Names.	Places of Abode.	lb. oz. dwt.
<b>D</b>		
Dawson, William	Oxford Arms Passage, Warwick Lane	6 4 —
Dawson, Robert	Cecil Court, St. Martin's Lane	2 — 5
Derafai, John	Little Earl Street, Seven Dials	— 1 12
Devonshire, Thomas	Pater Noster Row	68 4 15
Deacon, John	N <sup>o</sup> 1, Love Lane, Wood Street	3 2 16
Dimsdale, John	Goswell Street	5 10 8
<b>E</b>		
Evans, George	Fore Street	3 8 —
Evans, Thomas	Wood Street	30 9 12
<b>F</b>		
Faux, John, and Love, George	Workip Street, Moorfields	11 2 19
Fearn, William	N <sup>o</sup> 75, Wood Street	49 6 12
Flint, William	Dogwell Court, White Fryars	2 2 19
Foster, Thomas	N <sup>o</sup> 16, King's Head Court, Fetter Lane	1 3 14
Foster, William,	Without Bishopsgate	1 5 8
Foster, George, and Hooper, } William	Fryars Street, Black Fryars	— 11 3
<b>G</b>		
Gibbard, John	Quaker's Buildings, Smithfield	2 5 —
Goslee, William	Ellis's Row, Cold Bath Square	5 1 9
Grace, John	N <sup>o</sup> 12, Newgate Street	18 11 15
Grabam, James	White Crofs Alley, Moorfields	4 9 7
<b>H</b>		
Hallow, Thomas	near Southampton Street, Strand	1 2 17
Harding, Henry	Salisbury Court	5 — 14
Harding, Richard	—	1 — 14
Hardy, John	N <sup>o</sup> 8, Bridgewater Square	1 2 —
Harmar, James	Walton's Court, Holborn Bars	— 6 5
Harper, Thomas	Great St. Andrew's Street, Seven Dials	1 3 6
Hatton, Samuel	Rose Street, Soho	1 1 18
Hennell, David and Robert	Foster Lane	2 4 1
Higgs, Edward	Pitfield Street, Hoxton	7 8 3
Hooper, Giles	Gravel Street, Hatton Garden	1 9 3
Hougham, Charles	Aldergate Street	4 5 —
Hunter, Charles	Baker's Row, Whitechapel	1 1 13
Hunter, George	Shoe Lane	1 — 2
<b>I</b>		
Jackon, John	Little Britain	8 1 17
Jackon, Thomas	Mutton Lane, Clerkenwell Green	3 — 2
James, Thomas	Minorities	1 4 18
Jerman, Samuel	Great Newport Street	37 11 10
Irvine, John	N <sup>o</sup> 127, Minorities	1 9 11
<b>K</b>		
King, John	N <sup>o</sup> 73, Little Britain	— 11 11
Kinman, William	Eaſt Herding Street	4 9 14
Knigbtley, Samuel	Eaſt Smithfield	4 1 15
<b>L</b>		
Lambe, John	Fetter Lane	28 4 9
Laurence, Thomas	George Court, St. John's Lane	— 3 14
Laurens, Thomas, Junior, and } Sage, James	Francis Court, St. John's Lane	5 — 17
Le Stourgeon, Aaron	Clement's Inn Passage, Clare Market	— 10 9
Lewis, Joſeph	N <sup>o</sup> 38, Foster Lane	9 11 13
Lovidge, Thomas	Newbury, Berks	7 3 4
Lowe, Edward	Mortlake, Surrey	1 3 5
<b>M</b>		
M <sup>r</sup> Farlen, John	near Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street	4 9 5
Makemeid, Chriſtopher	Shoe Lane	— 9 16
Marſon, James	Prince's Street, Upper Moorfields	1 1 6
Meadburſt, William	Blue Anchor Alley, White Crofs Street	1 1 6
Meriton, Samuel	Foster Lane	— 10 —
Metbam, Robert	N <sup>o</sup> 5, Butcherball Lane	5 — 3
Mills, Richard	Salisbury Court, Fleet Street	11 5 9
Moore, John	Fleet Street	1 6 11
Mordecai, alias Montigue, Benjamin	Clerkenwell Green	98 10 —
Mordecock, John	Rope Maker's Alley, Moorfields	3 — 17

Persons Names.	Places of Abode.	lb. oz. dwt.
<b>M</b>		
Morlon, Andrew	King's Gate Street, Holborn	1 13
Mowden, David	Addle Street	4 2 5
<b>P</b>		
Palmer, Richard	Red Lion Street, Clerkenwell	3 1 11
Phillips, Levy	Spark's Court, Duke's Place	8 9 11
Phibbs, James	Gutter Lane	5 16
Piercy, Robert	Fisher Lane	2 5 2
Pinder, William	near Featherstone Street, Bunhill Row	48 10 18
Platt, Robert	New Turnstile, Holborn	7 11
Pullin, William		5 8
<b>R</b>		
Roy, Thomas	Bridewell Precinct	1 1 15
Read, Thomas, and Smith, Thomas	N <sup>o</sup> 17, Bartholemew Clofe	8 4 16
Reading, John	N <sup>o</sup> 26, Sea Coal Lane	4 —
Redrick, Richard	Aldermanbury	7 8 8
Rich, John	Tottenham Court Road	5 3 9
Richards, James	Bridgewater Square	1 5 19
Richardson, James	Old Street Square	1 3 17
Ricker, Philip	Bishopgate Street	28 3 —
Rofs, Robert	Bell's Buildings, Salisbury Court	16 —
Romer, Emuck	No. 123, High Holborn	6 2 6
<b>S</b>		
Simons, William	No. 6, Barbican	32 4 1
Simpson, Richard	Albion's Buildings, Alderagate Street	4 6
Smith, Daniel, and Sharp, Robert	Aldermanbury	4 3 5
Smith, George	No. 110, Wood Street	16 9 8
Smith, George	Hogan Lane	60 4 15
Sones, Thomas	Lilypot Lane	1 7 12
Steel, Savab	Quaker's Buildings	1 5 8
Steward, Joseph	Wood Street	1 3 14
Sudell, William	Monkwell Street	10 —
<b>T</b>		
Taylor, Elizabeth	Hogan Alley	6 8 4
Tooke, Elizabeth	Silver Street, Wood Street	33 1 14
Trifram, Benjamin	Hogan Lane	3 — 17
Turner, John	Quaker's Buildings, Cow Cross	1 7 18
Turner, William	Wood Street	8 2 14
Tweedie, Walter	Holywell Street, Strand	2 9 13
<b>W</b>		
Wallis, Thomas	Monkwell Street	14 6 6
Wefson, William	Silver Street, Wood Street	4 8 8
Whitford, William	Salisbury Court	19 8 12
Wild, Edward	N <sup>o</sup> 11, Water Lane, Fleet Street	8 14
Wingman, John	Prince's Street, Leicester Fields	2 6
<b>Y</b>		
Young, James	Aldergate Street	8 18

1,082 9 4

Truly extracted by me,

Geo. Fair, Clerk.

London, March 25th 1773.

An ACCOUNT of all Prosecutions which have been commenced and carried on by the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, against any Person or Persons, for Frauds or Abuses in Gold or Silver Plate, within Seven Years last past.

In the Year 1767, one William Chatterton, of the Parish of Christ Church, in the County of Middlesex, Working Silvermith, was prosecuted by Indictment at Hicks's Hall, in the said County, upon Statute 28th Edward 1st, and Statute 6th George I. Cap. 11. for fellinging Bits of Standard Silver to Tea Tongs and Shoe Buckles which were worse than Standard, and sending the same to the said Company's Assay Office, in order fraudulently to obtain their Marks to the same.

In the Year 1768, one William Kerfill of London, Working Silvermith, was prosecuted by Indictment at

the Old Bailey, London, upon the said Statutes, for making Two Salt Sellers worse than Standard, and for felling them for Standard.

In the Year 1770, James Morley Evans, John Ruffell, William Bell, and Richard Smiths, and also Mark Tommegay and Son, as Partners, were severally prosecuted by Actions on Statute 12 Geo. II. for making Gold Watch Chains worse than Standard; and Roger Simkinson, and also Richard Morison and Benjamin Stephenson, as Partners, were prosecuted by Actions on the said Statute, for felling Gold Watch Chains worse than Standard; and some of those Actions were tried in Middlesex, and others in London, where the Defendants carried on Trade.

In the said Year 1770, John Gimblett and William Vale, Watch Makers and Partners, in Birmingham, were prosecuted by an Action on the said Statute, for felling Two Silver Watch Cases to Mr. Henry Hens of Birmingham,

*mingham*, without being marked, and which, on that Account, were stop'd at the Custom House in *London*, on their being found in a Cask of Hardware; in which Action they suffered Judgment to go by Default.

*Note*—Since the Duty of Six Pence per Ounce on Silver Plate, payable by the Makers thereof, was taken off, and the counterfeiting the Hall

Marks was made a capital Crime by Stat. 31 Geo. II. Cap. 32. the Frauds in Wrought Plate have greatly decreased, except in such Wares as are not obliged to be marked with the Company's Marks.

Truly extracted by me,  
Geo. Fair, Clerk.

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup>. 3.

An ACCOUNT of the Names of the present Members of the Company of Goldsmiths and Watch-makers of the City of *Chester*.

<i>JOSEPH Duke</i>	- Silversmith
<i>George Walker</i>	- Ditto
<i>John Scafebrick</i>	- Jeweller
<i>Gabriel Smith</i>	- Watchmaker
<i>Thomas Brown</i>	- Ditto
<i>Robert Cawley</i>	- Ditto
<i>John Richardson</i>	- Came in by Birthright, and does not follow the Trade of a Silvermith or Watchmaker.
<i>Thomas Duke</i>	- Came in by Birthright, and does not follow either of the Trades.
<i>James Conway</i>	- Served his Time to a Silvermith, but does not follow the Trade.
<i>Eccles</i>	- Was formerly a Watchmaker, but has left the Town.

1769, by *Charles Boywell*, Esquire, then Mayor of the City of *Chester*.

An ACCOUNT of the Names and Places of Abode, of all the Goldsmiths, Silvermiths, and Plate-workers, now living, that have entered their Marks in the Assay Office at *Chester*.

<i>William Harwood</i>	—	—	<i>Manchester</i>
<i>Ralph Wakefield</i>	—	—	<i>Liverpool</i>
<i>T. Pritchard</i>	—	—	<i>Shrewsbury</i>
<i>Jos. Whalley</i>	—	—	<i>Liverpool</i>
<i>John Gimlet</i>	—	—	<i>Birmingham</i>
<i>Christian Thime</i>	—	—	<i>Liverpool</i>
<i>George Walker</i>	—	—	<i>Chester</i>
<i>George Smith</i>	—	—	<i>Warrington</i>
<i>William Pemberton</i>	—	—	<i>Chester</i>
<i>Richard Richardson</i>	—	—	<i>Chester</i>
<i>George Walker</i>	—	—	<i>Ditto</i>
<i>Ralph Walker</i>	—	—	<i>Liverpool</i>
<i>Mr. Fyber</i>	—	—	<i>Ditto</i>
<i>James Dixon</i>	—	—	<i>Chester</i>
<i>John Wyke and Thomas Green</i>	—	—	<i>Liverpool</i>
<i>Bolton and Fotbergill</i>	—	—	
<i>Gimble and Vale</i>	—	—	<i>Birmingham</i>

An ACCOUNT of the Names and Trades of the present Wardens and Assayer of the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers of the City of *Chester*, and when, and at what Times, and by whom, they were respectively elected.

Names of Wardens.	Trades.	When elected, and by whom.
<i>Gabriel Smith,</i> <i>Thomas Brown,</i>	} Watchmakers.	{ 20 July 1772, by the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers of <i>Chester</i> .

Name of Assayer.		
<i>John Scafebrick,</i>	a Jeweller.	{ 21 October 1769, by the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers of <i>Chester</i> .

An ACCOUNT when, and before whom, the present Assayer of the Company of Goldsmiths and Watchmakers, of the City of *Chester*, was sworn in for the due Execution of his Office.

*John Scafebrick*, the present Assayer, was sworn in for the due Execution of his Office, the 21<sup>st</sup> of October

An ACCOUNT of the Weight of Plate assayed and marked at the Assay Office in the City of *Chester*, for Seven Years, distinguishing each Year.

			Ounces.
1766	—	—	824
1767	—	—	331
1768	—	—	314
1769	—	—	161
1770	—	—	2,176
1771	—	—	2,429
1772	—	—	2,348
			8,583

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup>. 4.

*Exon, March 14th 1773.*  
**T**HERE are Five Members now belonging to the Company of Goldsmiths in this City, whose Names are *Mr. Thomas Coffin*, *Mr. Richard Sams*, *Mr. David Jones*, *Mr. Richard Jenkins*, and *Matthew Skinner*, Assay Master.

The present Wardens are, *Mr. David Jones* and *Mr. Richard Sams*; and were elected on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August 1772. by *Mr. Richard Jenkins* and *Matthew Skinner*. The Assayer was elected January 12<sup>th</sup> 1757, at a General Meeting of the Company of Goldsmiths, at the *Vine Tavern*, in the City of *Exeter*, by *Lewis Courtai*,  
4th Nov.

*Thomas Blake, Thomas Coffin, Richard Sams, and William Browne.*

The Assayer of the said Company was sworn by the late *Benjamin Heatb*, Elquire, soon after he was chosen.

The Names and Places of Abode of all the Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, now living, that have entered their Marks in the Assay Office in the City of Exeter.—*Mr. Edward Broadbush, Plymouth*; *Mr. Roger Berryman Symons, Plymouth*; *Mr. Welch, Plymouth Dock*; *Mr. Jafon Holt, Plymouth*; *Mr. James Jenkins, Plymouth*; *Mr. Thomas Thorne, Plymouth*; *Mr. Benjamin Symons Natban, Plymouth*; *Mr. William Eveleigh, Dartmouth*; *Mr. John Tingcombe, Plymouth*; *Mr. David Hawkins, Plymouth*; *Mr. Richard Jenkins, Exon*; *Mr. John Brown, Plymouth*; *Mr. Thomas Strong, Plymouth*; *Mr. William Harvey, Plymouth Dock*; *Mr.*

*Thomas Beer, Plymouth Dock*; *Mr. William Coffin, Exon*; *Mr. Richard Bidlake, Plymouth.*

The Weight of all the Plate assayed and marked at the Assay Office for Seven Years now last past, distinguishing each Year.

Plate assayed	lb.	oz.	dwt.
From 7th August 1765, to 7th August 1766	329	4	16
From 7th August 1766, to 7th August 1767	273	2	0
From 7th August 1767, to 7th August 1768	431	4	3
From 7th August 1768, to 7th August 1769	485	7	10
From 7th August 1769, to 7th August 1770	475	4	11
From 7th August 1770, to 7th August 1771	327	6	16
From 7th August 1771, to 7th August 1772	290	11	19
From 7th August 1772, to March 11th 1773	184	14	17

An ACCOUNT of all the Plate broken and defaced at the Assay Office in Exeter for Seven Years last past, distinguishing each Year.

				lb.
1765.				
Aug. 25.	Mr. Roger Berryman Symons, Buckles, Chapes, and Spoons, cut W <sup>o</sup> 9 dwt.	—	Wt.	9 8 0
May 11.	Mr. John Browne, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt. 12.	—	Wt.	2 7 18
15th.	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Tea Tongs cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	1 0 0
1766.				
Sept. 11th.	Mr. Thomas Strong, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 1 19
	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Tongs and Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 1 17
	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 14 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 3 7
Oct. 9th.	Mr. William Welch, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 2 0
16th.	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, Chapes, and Tea Tongs, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	4 3 12
1767.				
Feb. 19th.	Mr. Thomas Strong, Buckles, Chapes, and Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 14 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 4 0
June 11th	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	5 0 6
25th.	Mr. Thomas Strong, Buckles, Chapes, and Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	2 6 17
1768.				
Mar. 19th.	Mr. William Welch, Buckles, Chapes, and Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	9 9 18
May 21st.	Mr. Hawkins, Buckles and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 8 dwt.	—	Wt.	2 11 0
	Mr. Teltner, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt.	—	Wt.	0 10 5
June 2d.	Mr. William Welch, Spoons, Buckles, and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	9 7 9
30th.	Mr. Jafon Holt, Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	1 2 0
July 8th.	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, Chapes, and Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 4 dwt.	—	Wt.	4 4 10
	Mr. William Welch, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	8 9 4
1769.				
June 15th.	Mr. William Welch, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	2 3 18
	Mr. Hawkins, Spoons, Buckles, and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	5 2 0
Sept. 14th.	Mr. Brown, Buckles and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 9 dwt.	—	Wt.	12 3 7
27th.	Mr. Roger Berryman Symons, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	2 8 0
	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 8 dwt.	—	Wt.	4 4 5
Dec. 9th.	Mr. John Browne, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	6 5 5
1770.				
July 5th.	Mr. David Hawkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 11 0
Sept. 7th.	Mr. John Browne, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	14 6 0
29th.	Mr. Jafon Holt, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	3 8 0
	Mr. Thomas Beer, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	2 7 0
Oct. 24.	Mr. William Welch, Buckles and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 8 dwt.	—	Wt.	5 8 0
Dec. 6th.	Mr. John Brown, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 4 dwt.	—	Wt.	13 0 4
	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	7 5 18
	Mr. Thomas Beer, Tea Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 10 dwt.	—	Wt.	0 4 10
1771.				
Jan. 17th.	Mr. Jafon Holt, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—		
	Mr. David Hawkins, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—		
Feb. 9th.	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	8 7 7
21st.	Mr. John Brown, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 6 dwt.	—	Wt.	11 10 0
May 24.	Mr. Richard Jenkins, Buckles, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 5 dwt.	—	Wt.	10 3 12
Dec. 5th.	Mr. Thomas Beer, Tea Spoons, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt.	—	Wt.	0 10 0
1772.				
Jan. 2d.	Mr. Roger Berryman Symons, Buckles and Chapes, cut, W <sup>o</sup> 7 dwt.	—	Wt.	1 4 0
June 25th.	Mr. Thomas Beer, 2 Table Spoons, cut,—W <sup>o</sup> 15 dwt.	—		
	This was the last Work cut.			

Total Plate defaced for Seven Years last past—lb. 196 14 8

A P P E N D I X, N. 3.

An ACCOUNT, pursuant to an Order (signed *Thomas Gilbert*, Esquire) dated the Fourth of *March 1773*, of a Committee of the honourable House of Commons, appointed to enquire into the Manner of conducting the several Assay Offices in *London, York, Exeter, Bristol, Chester, Norwich*, and *Newcastle upon Tyne*, and the Manner in which Wrought Plate is assayed and marked; and also into the Frauds and Abuses that have been committed, or attempted to be committed, by the Manufacturers or Venders of Gold and Silver Plate and Plated Work.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, Freeman of, and inhabiting within, the Town of *Newcastle upon Tyne*, and who have served an Apprenticeship to the said Trade, that are now Members of the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company of *Newcastle*; viz.

<i>John Langlands,</i>	<i>Samuel James</i>	— Ditto
<i>John Kirkup,</i>	<i>James Crawford</i>	— Ditto
<i>Joseph Hutchinson.</i>	<i>David Crawford</i>	— Ditto
	<i>John Johnson</i>	— Ditto
	<i>James Heiberington</i>	— Ditto
	<i>Samuel Thompson</i>	— City of <i>Durham</i>
	<i>John Kearney</i>	— <i>Sunderland</i> by the Sea in the County of <i>Durham</i> .

An ACCOUNT of the Names and Trades of the present Wardens, and Assayer, of the Company of Goldsmiths and Silversmiths of *Newcastle upon Tyne*, and when, and at what Times, and by whom, they were respectively elected; viz.

Names of Wardens.	Trades.	When elected, and by whom.
<i>John Langlands,</i>	Goldsmith and Silversmith	{ 3d May 1772, by the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company of <i>Newcastle</i> , for One Year.
<i>John Kirkup,</i>	Ditto	
Name of Assayer.		
<i>Matthew Prior,</i>	Music Instrument Maker and Silver Turner.	{ In the Year 1759, by the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company of <i>Newcastle</i> .

An ACCOUNT of the Weight of all the Gold Plate and Silver Plate, assayed and marked at the Assay Office in *Newcastle upon Tyne*, for Seven Years now last past, distinguishing each Year; viz.

	Silver Plate.	Gold Plate.
In 1766 —	Ounces 13,040	—
1767 —	D° 12,964	—
1768 —	D° 12,970	—
1769 —	D° 10,987	—
1770 —	D° 11,578	—
1771 —	D° 13,195	—
1772 —	D° 12,158	—
	87,192	

An ACCOUNT when, and before whom, the present Assayer of the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company in *Newcastle upon Tyne* was sworn, for the due Execution of his Office; viz.

*Matthew Prior*, the present Assayer, was sworn in the Year 1759, for the due Execution of his said Office, before *Matthew Ridley*, Esquire, then Mayor of *Newcastle upon Tyne*.

An ACCOUNT of the Names, and Places of Abode, of all the Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, now living, that have entered their Marks in the Assay Office in the said Town of *Newcastle upon Tyne*; viz.

Names.	Places of Abode of all the Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers, now living, who have entered their Marks in the said Assay Office.
<i>John Langlands</i>	— <i>Newcastle upon Tyne</i>
<i>John Kirkup</i>	— Ditto

An ACCOUNT of the Weight of all the Gold Plate and Silver Plate broken and defaced at the said Assay Office in *Newcastle upon Tyne*, for Seven Years now last past, distinguishing each Year; viz.

	Silver Plate.	Gold Plate.
In 1766 —	Ounces 262	—
1767 —	D° 148	—
1768 —	D° 112	—
1769 —	D° 210	—
1770 —	D° 172	—
1771 —	D° 165	—
1772 —	D° 125	—
	1194	

*Matthew Prior.*

## A P P E N D I X, N° 6.

London, March 25th 1773.

EXTRACTS from such Parts of the Charters granted to the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London, as relate to the Regulation of the Assays of Wrought Plate; as taken from their Translations of such Charters.

## Recites,

Charter, 30th March, } **T**HAT the Goldsmiths  
1st Edw. III. 1327. } of our City of London,  
" by their Petition exhibited to us and our Council, in  
" our Parliament holden at *Westminster*, after the Feast  
" of the Purification of our Lady last past, have shewn  
" (*inter alia*) That the Cutlers cover Tin with Silver so  
" subtilly, and with such Sleight, that the same cannot  
" be discerned and severed from the Tin; and by that  
" Means they sell the Tin, so covered, for fine Silver,  
" to the great Damage and Deceit of us and our People.  
" Whereupon the said Goldsmiths have petitioned us,  
" that we would be pleased to apply convenient Remedy  
" therein: And we being willing to prevent the said  
" Evil, do, by and with the Assent of the Lords Spiritual  
" and Temporal, and the Commons of our Realm,  
" for the Common Profit of us and our People, Will  
" and Grant for us and our Heirs (*inter alia*) That  
" those of the said Trade may, by virtue of these Pre-  
" sents, elect honest, lawful, and sufficient, Men, best  
" skilled in the said Trade, to enquire of the Matters  
" aforesaid; and that they so chosen may, upon due  
" Consideration of the said Craft, reform what Defects  
" they shall find therein, and thereupon inflict due Pun-  
" ishment upon the Offenders; and that by the Help  
" and Assistance of the Mayor and Sheriffs, if Occasion  
" be; and that in all trading Cities and Towns in *Eng-  
" land*, where Goldsmiths reside, the same Ordinance be  
" observed as in *London*; and that One or Two of every  
" such City or Town, for the rest of that Trade, shall  
" come to *London* to be ascertained of their Touch of  
" Gold; and there to have a Stamp of a Punccheon of a  
" *Leopard's* Head marked upon their Work, as of an-  
" cient Time it has been ordained."

Charter 6th February, } GRANTS and gives Licence  
16th Rich. II. 1392. } to the Men of the said Craft of  
Goldsmiths, of the City of *London*, That from thence-  
forth they be a perpetual Community or Society of  
themselves; and that the said Society or Company may,  
for ever, yearly elect out of themselves Four Wardens,  
to oversee, rule, and duly govern, the said Craft and  
Community, and every Member of the same.

Grants (*inter alia*) as follows:

Charter 30th May, } **A**ND for the Credit of the  
2d Edw. IV. 1462. } Men of the said Craft, dwell-  
" ing and residing in the said City, for the Time being,  
" and for the preventing and avoiding the Damage and  
" Loss, which do or may daily happen and arise, as well  
" to us as to any our liege People, for want of a due and  
" provident Care in regulating certain of our Subjects  
" and others, using and exercising the said Trade, with-  
" out any Regard to the Credit of the said Company;  
" and also for the preventing and taking away the Sub-  
" tilities and Deceits practised in the said Trade; we  
" have further granted, and by these Presents do grant,  
" to the said now Wardens and Commonalty, and their  
" Successors for ever, That the Wardens of the said  
" Mystery, for the Time being, shall and may for ever  
" have the Search, Inspection, Trial, and Regulation, of  
" all Sorts of Gold and Silver, Wrought or to be

" Wrought, and to be exposed to Sale, within the City  
" of *London* and the Suburbs thereof, and in all Fairs  
" and Markets, and all Cities, Towns, and Boroughs,  
" and all other Places whatsoever, throughout our  
" Kingdom of *England*; and also shall and may have  
" Power to punish and correct all Defects that shall be  
" found in the working of Gold and Silver; and also,  
" by themselves or any of them, to break all such de-  
" ceitful Works and Wares of Gold and Silver, of what  
" Sort soever, if any such they shall find to be made,  
" wrought, and exposed to Sale, in Deceit of our  
" People."

Charter, 3d February, } MENTIONS, That divers  
20 Hen. VII. 1504. } Persons, in divers Parts of this  
Kingdom do work, and expose to Sale, Gold and Silver  
wrought worse than Standard, and neither fear nor  
doubt to be punished, as due Search, or due Punishment,  
is seldom executed out of *London*; and that the com-  
mon Standard or Assize of Gold and Silver (according  
to the Ordinances in that Behalf made) is kept in Gold-  
smiths Hall in *London*; and that all Works and Wares  
of Gold and Silver there tried and assayed, and affirmed  
for good, shall be stamped with their Marks, which they  
use for that Purpose; and all defective Works utterly  
condemned.

The above is a true Extract of the Charters, and the  
Translations thereof, produced this 25th March  
1773 to the Committee, and was taken therefrom,

By me,

Geo. Fair, Clk. to the Goldsmiths Company.

London, March 25th, 1773.

EXTRACTS of such Bye Laws of the Company  
of Goldsmiths of the City of *London*, as relate to the  
Regulation of the Assays of Wrought Plate; viz.

No. 1. A COPY of ancient Ordinances, revised in  
the Year 1729, and read annually to the Livory of  
the said Company.

Be it ordained, That if any Goldsmith, *English* or  
Stranger, make any Refuse to the Wardens at any Time  
that they make Search, and will not suffer their Stuff of  
Gold or Silver to be assayed, or will not suffer them to  
take a Diltress, to cause them to come to the Gold-  
smiths Hall at General Assemblies, or at any other  
Time, to answer to such Things as shall be laid to their  
Charges touching the same Occupation, then he or they  
that so doth, for every Time so found faulty, shall pay  
Five Marks.

Also, for as much as oftentimes heretofore, when the  
Wardens of the said Craft, for the Time being, have  
lawfully punished and corrected certain Persons for their  
Defaults, as untrue Working, or other Trespasses by  
them done against the Ordinance and Constitutions in  
the said Craft made and used, certain such Persons, after  
the Time that the said Wardens have been discharged  
from their said Offices, have sued and grievously vexed  
the said Wardens, in diverse Countries and Places; for  
the said lawful Punishments and Corrections, and have  
caused



caused them to spend great Sums of their own proper Goods; wherefore be it ordained and assented by the Wardens now being, and by all the Company of the said Craft, that if any such Warden be sued for such lawful Punishment and Correction duly done, that all the Costs for the Defence of the said Suit shall be borne and done by and with the common Goods of the same Craft; and he that so sueth, being a Goldsmith, shall lose all the Benefits of the said Craft for evermore.

Also, be it ordained, That all Men use true Balances and Weights, after Tray Weight, and no Man use Pile nor Weights without they be admitted afore the Wardens, and the Mark of the Hall upon them; and he that useth the contrary, as aforesaid, it may be proved, shall pay Forty Shillings.

Also, be it ordained, That no Goldsmith work, nor do to be wrote, no worse Gold than the Alloy of Two Carats, nor set no Glass in Gold but good Stones, nor work no Silver worse than 2 dwt. of Alloy, or 10 dwt. of Alloy in the Pound Weight Tray, or better; and upon the Offence proved, the Party grieved to have a reasonable and sufficient Recompence, by the Oversight of the Wardens of this Fellowship, and the Party offending to pay to the said Wardens, to the Use of the Fellowship aforesaid, at the First Default 2s. and at the Second Default 6s. 8d. at the Third Default 20s. and at the Fourth Default, his Body to be committed to Prison until the Time he agree with his Wardens, or avoid the City for ever, and to be dismissed from the Benefits of the Craft or Mystery of the Goldsmiths.

Also, for as much as it is Enacted by Authority of the High Court of Parliament, That no Goldsmith shall put to Sale any Manner of Plate, nor other Stuff of Silver, but if it be touched with the Leopard's Head crowned, the Lion, and the Letter for the Year, or with the Lion's Head erased, the Britannia, and the Letter for the Year, on Pain of Forfeiture of the same Thing: Therefore be it ordained, That no Goldsmith put to Sale no Manner of Plate, nor other Stuff of Silver, until the Time he hath set thereon his own Mark, and then the same Stuff so marked to be brought to the Assay House at Goldsmiths Hall, there to be assayed and abled good, and marked with the Marks aforesaid; and that no Goldsmith presume to bring or send no Manner of Works of Gold or Silver to the Goldsmiths Hall to be touched, but if it be truly made, without Deceit or Colour in the Assay, taking as well in all Manner of Garnishings in the said Works as in the plain Plate of the same, and the Stuff of the said Works to be all alike sufficient in Fineness, and to be made with as little Solder as is necessary, and with no more than is necessary, to the same Works; upon Pain at every Time so doing to be punished after the Discretion of the Wardens, for the Time being, by Fine, Imprisonment, or otherwise.

Whereas divers Goldsmiths, as well Strangers as English, have before this Time wrought, and yet daily doth, much deceitful Stuff of Gold and Silver, in Garrets, Chambers, and other secret Places, with Doors locked upon them, so that the Wardens for the Time being cannot have Recourse to make Search and Assay of and upon such Stuff as they have wrought: In Consideration whereof, be it ordained, That no Man of the said Craft, English or Stranger, shall work in Chambers, Garrets, nor in no other privy Places, but in high Streets and open Shops, that Men may see they work truly, and that the Wardens may have their Recourse to make Searches and Assays upon such Gold and Silver as they work, upon Pain every Man doing the contrary to pay the Sum of 100s.

March 25th, 1773.  
A true Copy, examined with the original Ordinances,  
By me Geo. Fair,  
Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.

London, March 25th, 1773.

EXTRACTS of such Bye Laws of the Company of Goldsmiths of the City of London as relate to the Regulation of the Assays of Wrought Plate; viz.

No. 2. A COPY of Orders to be observed in the said Company's Assay Office, made the 30th Day of October 1760.

30 October, 1760. Goldsmiths Hall, London.  
Orders to be observed in this Company's Assay Office.

First, It is ordered, That every Day in the Year shall be a Hall Day, or Working Day, and be observed as such in the said Office, except as hereinafter is mentioned (that is to say) all Sundays, the 1st and 30th Days of January, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Easter Monday and Tuesday, the Days of trying the Diet and swearing in the Wardens and Officers, the Days of His Majesty's Birth, Inauguration, and Coronation, Ascension Day, Whit Monday and Tuesday, the Lady's Feast, the Day of Trial of the Pix, the 2d of September, the 5th of November, Lord Mayor's Day, the 25th Day of December, and the Three Days following; all which excepted Days are to be Holy Days in the said Office; and as to such of the said Holy Days as shall happen to be on Days not fixed nor certain, Notice shall be stuck up at the Office Door for the Space of Seven Days before such Holy Day; but all the Officers are nevertheless to attend the Duty of their Offices on the Trial of the Diet yearly as usual.

II. It is ordered, That the Weighers do weigh in, duly enter, and weigh out, all Plate or Work of Gold or Silver whatsoever, which shall be brought to be assayed or marked (being first marked with the Mark of the Worker or Maker) and that they weigh in every Workman's Plate by itself, and that in Manner following; viz. Silver Plate that is to pay Diet, by itself; small Silver Wares that are to pay by the Piece, by themselves; and Gold Work by itself; and the Junior Weigher shall carefully tell the Number of each Species of small Silver Wares and Gold Work, paying by the Piece, Pair, or other Number; and every Workman shall divide his Plate before it be weighed in, if it be of different Sorts of Silver, and not afterwards; and that the Weighers take in Work from Seven till Nine of the Clock in the Morning during the whole Year, according to the ancient Custom of the Office, and not after Nine o'Clock, in Delay of the Business.

III. That no Parcel of Plate, or Small Work, of Gold or Silver, shall be taken in to be weighed, tried, or assayed, without a Note or Ticket, containing the Day of the Month and Year, the Christian and Surname, and Place of Abode, of the Worker or Maker, with the Number of Pieces in each Parcel, and the total Weight; and likewise the Number of each Species of small Wares, required to be paid for in Money.

IV. That no Cast Work shall be assayed or tried, unless the same shall have been well bolted or filed, so that the Barb be taken clear off from every Piece; and that no Spoons be assayed or tried, unless they be swaged and dopt: nor no Forks, unless they be lawed down.

V. That all Sword Hilts, Snuff-Boxes, and other Species of Plate, brought to be assayed and marked, shall (as near as may be) have all the Pieces soldered, or otherwise joined together; and no Plate whatsoever shall hold or bear more Solder than is necessary.

VI. That when any Piece or Parcel of Plate shall be brought in Doubt, then it shall be re-tried the next Hall Day, or working Day.

VII. That all Paper, or By-Assays, which shall be brought to the Office before Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, shall be ready to be delivered at or before Six in the Evening; and all the Paper, or By-Assays, shall be delivered out, and the Money received for the same, only by the Senior Weigher.

VIII. That

VIII. That no Officer or Servant, belonging to the said Office, shall take any Box Money, Fees, Perquisite, or Reward, to himself, or to or for the Use of any other Officer or Servant belonging to the said Office, of or from any Person whomsoever, upon any Pretence, in Relation to his Office, Duty, or Service.

March 25th 1773. The above is a true Copy, examined with the Original Orders, By me,  
Geo. Fair, Clk. to the Goldsmiths Company.

Goldsmiths Hall, } Report of the Diet.  
28th May 1768. }

We whose Names are hereunder written, being a Committee appointed for Trial of the Diet, met at the Assay Office (pursuant to an Order of the Court of Assistants, holden the 19th Instant) and we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by Francis Pages, Senior Assayer, since the 29th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 124 oz. 14 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 123 oz. 1 and having assayed and tried the said Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Diet Silver said to be taken for Plate assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 29th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 74 oz. 8 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 73 oz. 8 dwt., and having assayed and tried the last mentioned Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Assay Pieces made by Mr. Pages; and found the same to be 265 oz. 1 dwt. and those made by Mr. Rufforth to be 204 oz. 5 dwt. making together 469 oz. 6 dwt. since the 29th Day of May last.

And having melted and weighed the Water Silver, we found that there is now remaining in the Office 56 oz. 2 dwt. of that Silver; to wit, 36 oz. 12 dwt. received from the Fire, and 19 oz. 10 dwt. fine Silver remaining in Mr. Pages's Hands.

And we weighed the Diet Gold, of One Grain per Parcel, said to be taken for Gold Work assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 29th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 3 oz. 18 dwt. 18 gr. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 3 oz. 17 dwt. 9 gr.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Gold, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

The Sweep for Four Years past, being 142 oz. 12 dwt. reported 11 1/2 dwt. better, and holding 4 dwt. 12 gr. Gold.

John Payne  
Edward Cooke  
John White  
Arib. Sadler  
Peter Planck.

The above is a true Copy, examined with the Original Report this 25th March 1773, by me  
Geo. Fair, Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.

Goldsmiths Hall, } Report of the Diet.  
26th May 1769. }

We whose Names are hereunder written, being a Committee appointed for Trial of the Diet, met at the Assay Office (pursuant to an Order of the Court of Assistants holden the 23d Instant) and we weighed the Diet Silver said to be taken for Plate assayed by Francis Pages, Senior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 125 oz. 10 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 124 oz. 5 dwts.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Silver, and compared the same with

the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Diet Silver said to be taken for Plate assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 77 oz. 18 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 77 oz. 4 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the last mentioned Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Assay Pieces made by Mr. Pages, and found the same to be 264 oz. 3 dwt. and those made by Mr. Rufforth to be 214 oz. 9 dwt. making together 478 oz. 12 dwt. since the 28th Day of May last.

And having melted and weighed the Water Silver, we found that there is now remaining in the Office 55 oz. 7 dwt. of that Silver; to wit, 38 oz. 12 dwt. received from the Fire, and 16 oz. 15 dwt. fine Silver remaining in Mr. Pages's Hands.

And we weighed the Diet Gold, of One Grain per Parcel, said to be taken for Gold Work assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 3 oz. 19 dwt. 21 gr. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 3 oz. 18 dwt. 6 gr.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Gold, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

Henry Boldero,	Sam <sup>r</sup> Plumb,
Arib. Sadler,	Joseph Cooke,
Tho <sup>r</sup> Thorne,	Sam <sup>r</sup> Wood,
Peter Planck,	John Payne,
John White,	Edward Cooke.

The above is a true Copy, examined with the original Report this 25th March 1773, by me,  
Geo. Fair, Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.

Goldsmiths Hall, } Report of the Diet.  
28th May 1770. }

We whose Names are hereunder written, being a Committee appointed for Trial of the Diet, met at the Assay Office (pursuant to an Order of the Court of Assistants holden the 17th Instant) and we weighed the Diet Silver said to be taken for Plate assayed by Francis Pages, Senior Assayer, since the 26th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 110 oz. 12 dwts. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 109 oz.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 26th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 91 oz. 5 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 91 oz. 10 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the last mentioned Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

And we weighed the Assay Pieces made by Mr. Pages, and found the same to be 236 oz. 19 dwt. and those made by Mr. Rufforth to be 256 oz. 19 dwt. making together 493 oz. 18 dwts. since the 26th Day of May last.

And having melted and weighed the Water Silver, we found that there is now remaining in the Office 48 oz. 6 dwts. of that Silver; to wit, 38 oz. 9 dwt. received from the Fire, and 9 oz. 17 dwt. fine Silver remaining in Mr. Pages's Hands.

And we weighed the Diet Gold, of One Grain per Parcel, said to be taken for Gold Work assayed by Fendall Rufforth, Junior Assayer, since the 26th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 4 oz. 5 dwts. 12 gr. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same it weighed 4 oz. 3 dwt.; and having assayed

assayed and tried the said Diet Gold, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

*Sam<sup>d</sup> Drinkwater,* *Arth. Sadler,*  
*Sam<sup>d</sup> Wood,* *John White,*  
*John Payne,* *Tho<sup>s</sup> Thorne,*  
*Tho<sup>s</sup> Whigham,* *Peter Planck.*  
*Edw<sup>d</sup> Cooke,*

The above is a true Copy, examined with the original Report this 25th March 1773, by me,  
*Geo. Fair,*  
Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.

Goldsmiths Hall, } Report of the Diet.  
28th May 1771. }

We whole Names are hereunder written, being a Committee appointed for Trial of the Diet, met at the Assay Office (pursuant to an Order of the Court of Assitants holden the 13th Instant) and we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by *Francis Pages*, Senior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 106 oz. 4 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 102 oz. 17 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

62. dwt.  
104 17

And we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by *Fendall Rulphorib*, Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 101 oz. 13 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 100 oz. 13 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the last mentioned Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

62. dwt. gr.  
100 13  
205 10

And we weighed the Assay Pieces made by *Mr. Pages*, and found the same to be 216 oz. 3 dwt. and those made by *Mr. Rulphorib* to be 289 oz. 6 dwt. making together 505 oz. 9 dwt. since the 28th Day of May last.

505 9

And having melted and weighed the Water Silver, we found that there is now remaining in the Office 47 oz. 2 dwt. of that Silver; to wit, 42 oz. 5 dwt. received from the Fire, and 4 oz. 17 dwt. fine Silver, remaining in *Mr. Pages's* Hands.

47 2

And we weighed the Diet Gold, of one Grain per Partel, said to be taken for Gold Work assayed by *Fendall Rulphorib*, Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 4 oz. 17 dwt. 12 gr. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 4 oz. 15 dwt. 6 gr.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Gold, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

4 15 6

*Sam<sup>d</sup> Plambe,* *Edw<sup>d</sup> Cooke,*  
*Sam<sup>d</sup> Drinkwater,* *Arth. Sadler,*  
*Sam<sup>d</sup> Wood,* *Tho<sup>s</sup> Thorne,*  
*John Payne,* *John White.*

The above is a true Copy, examined with the original Report this 25th March 1773, by me,

*Geo. Fair,*  
Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.

\* Goldsmiths Hall } Report of the Diet.  
27th May 1772. }

We whole Names are hereunder written, being a Committee appointed for Trial of the Diet, met at the Assay Office (pursuant to an Order of the Court of Assitants holden the 13th Instant) and we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by *Francis Pages*, Senior Assayer (but lately deceased) since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 97 oz. 10 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 96 oz. 7 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

92. dwt.  
96 7

And we weighed the Diet Silver, said to be taken for Plate assayed by *Fendall Rulphorib*, Senior Assayer, but late Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 120 oz. 18 dwt. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 119 oz. 4 dwt.; and having assayed and tried the last mentioned Diet Silver, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be Standard.

119 4 —  
215 11

And we weighed the Assay Pieces made by *Mr. Pages*, and found the same to be 196 oz. 18 dwt. and those made by *Mr. Rulphorib* to be 338 oz. 10 dwt. making together 535 oz. 8 dwt. since the 28th Day of May last.

535 8 —

And having melted and weighed the Water Silver, we found that there is now remaining in the Office 36 oz. 5 dwt. of that Silver; to wit, 31 oz. 10 dwt. received from the Fire, and 4 oz. 15 dwt. fine Silver remaining in *Mr. Rulphorib's* Hands.

36 5 —

And we weighed the Diet Gold, of One Grain per Parcel, said to be taken for Gold Work assayed by *Fendall Rulphorib*, Senior Assayer, but late Junior Assayer, since the 28th Day of May last; and we found the same to be 5 oz. 2 dwt. 6 gr. before we put it into the Fire; and after we had melted the same, it weighed 5 oz. 0 dwt. 0 gr.; and having assayed and tried the said Diet Gold, and compared the same with the Standard Trial Piece of 1728, we found it, upon the most careful Examination, to be near Standard.

5 —

Part of the Sweep for Four Years past, being 46 oz. 7 dwt. reported 13 dwt. better, and holding 3 dwt. 18 gr. of fine Gold, and the Residue of the said Sweep in a Flux, containing Metal weighing 289 oz. 10 dwt. reported to hold 3 oz. 4 dwt. of fine Silver, and 18 Grains of fine Gold in the Pound Weight Troy.

Four Years Sweep.

*Edw<sup>d</sup> Cooke,* *Matthew Percbard,*  
*Tho<sup>s</sup> Thorne,* *Sandilands Drinkwater,*  
*John White,* *Samuel Wood,*  
*Arth. Sadler,* *John Payne.*  
*Peter Floyer,*

The above is a true Copy of the original Report produced this Day, and was examined therewith, this 25th March 1773, by me,

*Geo. Fair,*  
Clerk to the Goldsmiths Company.



# R E P O R T

F R O M T H E

C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O

T H E P R E S E N T S T A T E

O F T H E

L I N E N T R A D E

I N

G R E A T B R I T A I N A N D I R E L A N D.

Reported on the Twenty-fifth Day of *May* 1773.

Together with an A P P E N D I X referred to in the said Report,



A

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

### The STATE of the LINEN TRADE

In GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.

*The 25th of May 1773.*

The Committee appointed to enquire into the present State of the Linen Trade in *Great Britain and Ireland*, and to whom the Petition of the Linen Manufacturers of the North Riding of the County of *York*, and also the Petition of the Huckaback Table Linen Manufacturers of *Darlington*, in the County of *Durham*, and also the Petition of the Linen Manufacturers of the Counties of *Wilt*, *Dorset*, and *Somerset*, and also the Petition of the Clothiers and Manufacturers of *Devonshire Kersey* and Plain Cloth, were severally referred; have, pursuant to the Order of the House, inquired into the Matters, and considered the several Petitions to them referred; and in order to give the House as full a State as possible of the several Matters referred to their Consideration, they both inspected the Accounts laid before them, and examined such Persons, from whose Knowledge and Experience in the Linen Manufacture of these Kingdoms, they could expect the best Information.

Your Committee began by examining,

**M** R. *Patrik Maxwell*, who is engaged in many different Branches of the Linen Manufacture, at *Dundee* in *Scotland*; and who, being desired to give Your Committee an Account of the present State of the Linen Manufacture in that Place and its Neighbourhood, said, That there is a very considerable Manufacture carried on there; that that Manufacture flourish-

ed most during the late War; but that, about Two Years after the Conclusion of the Peace, the Trade began to decline, and has continued so to do ever since—that there is now a great Diminution in the Quantities of Linen Goods made, although the Prices are fallen from 10 to 12 *per Cent.*—that some Branches of the Trade have suffered more than others, particularly the Articles of Soldiers Shirting and Dowlas, which are almost entirely given up for Want of a Demand, though the First once formed a considerable Branch of the Manufacture of that Town and Neighbourhood—that he dealt chiefly in *Onaburgish*, which have fallen in their Price, within the last Twelve Months, One Penny *per Yard*—that he could not recollect the exact Price of that Article at the Cloie of the late War, but that it was at least 13 or 14 *per Cent.* higher than the present Price, though the Quality of the Goods is now much better—that, in his Opinion, the Number of Looms now employed are a Fourth or a Fifth less than the Number that were employed at that Time—that the Sheetings and thin White and Brown Linens have also fallen in Price, at least a Penny a Yard. And being asked, If the Importation of Flax was decreased lately? he said, It was, between One Third and One Fourth—that he had known from Five hundred to Seven hundred Tons imported to *Dundee* in One Year, but that last Year it did not exceed Four hundred or Four hundred and Fifty, which Decrease he imputed entirely to the Decline of the Linen Manufacture.

D d

And

And being asked, If the Prices of Yarn had diminished lately? he said, They had; and that there is but little Foreign Yarn imported at Dundee, but a great deal spun in the Town and Neighbourhood—~~and being~~ asked, If there have been Riots lately in that Part of the Country? he said, There have; and that they were chiefly occasioned by the Linen Manufacturers being out of Employment—that he did not know of any other Cause, as the Prices of Provisions were but very little higher at the Time of these Disturbances than they were a Year before; and that the Rioters were chiefly Manufacturers out of Employment: And being asked, If the Wages of the Manufacturers had been lowered in late Years? he said, The Osnaburgh Manufacturers received now only Eight or Nine Shillings, for what they formerly were paid Ten Shillings and Six Pence; and that the Wages they now receive are not sufficient to maintain a Man with an usual Family in Oatmeal, which is their chief Subsistence—that many of the Linen Manufacturers hold small Pieces of Ground; but that from the present low State of the Trade, he does not think they can pay their Rents—that the Counties of Perth, Kincardine, and Fife, are also greatly concerned in the Linen Manufacture; that he believed them to be in as bad a Situation as Dundee and its Neighbourhood; and that there have been Riots in the first and last of those Counties, which he believed proceeded from the same Causes as those which happened in Dundee.

Your Committee then examined,

Mr. Walter Bigger, who said, He was concerned in the Linen Trade as a Manufacturer, in the Neighbourhood of Edinburgh, and dealt chiefly in fine Shirting and Long Lawn—that he had been in Trade ever since the Year 1749—that the Linen Manufacture, is in a very declining State now—that from the Year 1749, to the Beginning of the late War, its Progress was rather slow; but that in Two or Three Years after that Period, the Trade began to extend quickly, and continued to increase until the End of the War; and that he did not perceive any Decline in it, till Two or Three Years after the Conclusion of the Peace, since when it has been gradually declining—that in the Neighbourhood of Edinburgh it has decreased from One Third to One Half—that to the best of his Knowledge, the Number of Looms was reduced from 1,500, to 5 or 700; which Calculation he formed from the Observations of others as well as from his own—that during the late War, when the Manufacture flourished most, though the Demand for Hands was great, yet enough were found; but that now many Hundreds, both Spinners and Weavers, are out of Employment—that, during the Time beforementioned, there was a considerable Manufacture at Perth of a Sort of white Linen, fit for Printing, called Silex, and of a Kind fit for Soldiers Shirting; that Trade is in a very declining Situation: And he mentioned an Instance of One Manufacturer there, Mr. Sandeman, who had been obliged to reduce the Number of his Looms from 200 to about 30—that other Manufacturers have also lessened their Number, but he could not say if in the same Proportion—that when he was at Perth last Autumn, the Manufacturers in general complained much of the declining State of the Trade; and he was told the Weavers were selling the Cloth at little more than the Price of the Materials, which he believed to be true—that before the present Decline, the Scotch Manufacturers succeeded in making Holland for Shirts, Table Linen, Clear Lawn, Long Lawn, and Silex. And being asked, To what he imputed the Decline in the Linen Manufacture? he said, It is chiefly owing to the Importation of Foreign Linen on too low a Duty—that he judges so, because there are no Fabricks of Linen in which the Scotch have succeeded, except when the same Foreign Fabrick has been subject to an high Duty on Importation; and he specified the Dutch Holland (which is subject to an

Average Duty of £. 25 per Cent. on Importation) Checks, and Ticking, which are charged with an heavy Duty; and said, That the Scotch and Irish Linens, for Shirts, have therefore ~~come~~ <sup>into</sup> Use in Lieu of Dutch Holland; and Home made Checks, and Tickings, have got Possession of the whole Market instead of the Foreign—that the Osnaburghs succeed on Account of the Bounty on Exportation—that though the Dutch Damasks are subject to an high Duty, yet Damasks are entered as coming from Silex or other Parts of Germany, and a very few from Holland—that the German Damask pays only about One Fourth of the Duty on Dutch Damask, which has prevented our Manufactory from succeeding—~~that all~~ <sup>that all</sup> Linens are subject to a Duty of about 25 per Cent. on their rated Value—the Dutch Holland is rated at near its real Value, but the Fabricks of the others, having been altered, are now more valuable than they were when the Rates were laid; so that they pay a less Duty in Proportion to their real Value—that the additional Duty on Importation of Long Lawns, in 1767, did not enable the Home Manufacture to rival that Species, though it was attempted—that the Price of Foreign Long Lawns did not rise in consequence of this Duty; and that he believed the Reason why the Home Manufacture failed, was, that the Foreign Merchant or Manufacturer, or both, submitted to a temporary Decrease in their Profits—that Table Linen and Long Lawns have been made in Scotland equal in every Respect, and of the same Kind, as those imported from Germany; but that the Manufacture of Table Linen has failed; because the fine German Table Linen is sold 20 per Cent. cheaper than the Scotch can afford to make them. And being asked, If he thought Great Britain and Ireland could in Time supply the whole Consumption of Linen at Home and in the Colonies? he said, He was of Opinion they could in a few Years, because, during the late War, when there was a Demand, the Manufacture made such a considerable Progress—that if Duties on Importation of Foreign Linens were laid, so as to give the Home Manufacture an Advantage equal to what the late War produced, the Manufacture would increase in a few Years so as to supply the whole Demand—that the Linens made at Perth, called Silex, and some made at Glasgow, are very fit for Printing, and though actually used for that Purpose during the War, are not so now, upon Account of a Drawback being allowed to Foreign Linen on Exportation, when printed; and that the above-mentioned Linens were chiefly made of Home-grown Flax—that the Prices of Linen in Great Britain and the Colonies, before the Encouragement was given to the Home Manufacture, were considerably higher than they have been of late Years—that in 1749, when he began Business, they were from 10 to 15 per Cent. higher than at present, although the Quality of the Goods is now much better; and that they were still higher at a prior Period.

Your Committee next examined,

Mr. John Colvill, who being asked, said, He was a Linen Manufacturer at Glasgow—that the principal Branch carried on there some Time ago was Clear and Figured Lawns—The Figured Lawns have been upon a Decline for several Years, and the Manufactory in general is declining at Glasgow and its Neighbourhood at this Time—that at Paisley they make Silk Gauzes, and at Glasgow, Linen for Printing, and a few Clear Lawns—that by a Calculation shewn to him in 1767, the Number of Looms, within about Twelve Miles of Glasgow, amounted to 3,200, which Calculation he believed to be just; but has Reason to suppose there is a great Diminution in the Number now—that he imputed this Decline in the Linen Manufactory to the Improvement of the Manufacture in Germany, since the Time when the Book of Rates was formed, which was in Charles the Second's Reign, agreeable to which Book all Duties have been laid—that Quadruple Silex is rated as Nar-



row, Germany at 6d. 2-5ths in the said Book, though now really worth from One Shilling to Two—that by an Act of William and Mary, all Linens of a certain Breadth are allowed to be entered as Narrow Germany, which is rated only at 6d. 2-5ths of a Penny per Yard, though many of the Linens entered under that Denomination are of a much higher Value; and that now, above One Half of the whole Linens imported are entered under that Denomination—that the Quadruple Silecias supply in general the Consumption of Long Lawns, particularly in the Article of Printing, being intitled to a Drawback on Exportation, which gives them the Preference in the Foreign Market, as well as in the Home Market, because the Importer can send Abroad whatever Goods do not happen to suit the Taste here. And being asked, What is the present State of the Check Trade? he said, He looked upon it to be secured to this Country, by Means of the high Duty imposed on the Importation of Checks, which amounts to 30 per Cent. *ad Valorem*, besides the same Duty as other Linens; and that the Home Manufacture supplies the whole Consumption—that when Sail-Cloth is imported, a Stamp is put on each Piece, which is cut off when exported—that the Law of stamping does not take Place as to any other Species of Linen, but did with respect to Checks and Printed Linens, when any were imported. And being asked, If it would be proper to extend the Law of stamping to other Linens? he said, That the Narrow Germanys are distinguished by various Names, known to the Trade; and that if Stamps were to be used, each Species should be distinguished by the Stamp, according to their Qualities; which would prevent one Denomination being entered in the Place of another, and paying a less Duty than it ought. And being asked, If it is possible to enter Linens under one Denomination, as the Law now stands, and to receive the Drawback upon there under an higher Denomination? he said, He thought it was; but that the stamping would, in a great Measure, make it impossible; and that it would be necessary to send the Linens to Warehouses immediately upon their Importation, and to remain there until they should be stamped by a proper Officer—that he never exported any *British* or *Irish* Linens printed, because they have no Bounty when exported; while the Foreign Linens, when printed, have the Drawback, which gives them the Preference; but if the Bounty was allowed to *British* and *Irish* Linens, when printed, or the Drawback withheld on the Foreign, the Home-made Linens would have a considerable Share in that Branch of the Export Trade, as they are equally fit for Printing as the Foreign. And being asked, What is the State of the Manufacture of Diapers and Damasks? he said, That only the coarse Kinds are made at Home—that the finer Sort are imported from Germany—that at the Time of forming the Book of Rates, the Dutch Diapers and Damasks were rated high, but the Germans very low, the Effect of which was, that very few Dutch Diapers or Damasks are imported; and the Germans having improved their Manufacture, they send us the finer Kinds, to the Value of which the present Duty bears but a small Proportion—that they are able to undersell the Home Manufacturers in the finer Sorts; but that the Duty on the lower Kinds gives them the Advantage therein—that the extending of the Duties, payable on Damasks and Diapers from Holland, to those imported from Germany, would give us the greatest Share of that Manufacture. And being asked, What would be the Consequence if no Encouragement is given by Parliament to the Linen Manufacture? he said, We shall run a great Risk of losing that Manufacture—that many of the Manufacturers are already gone abroad, and more will follow; and that the Trade is at present in a distressed Situation, particularly about Glasgow.

Your Committee then called,  
Mr. John Mackenzie; who being examined, said,

That he is concerned in various Branches of the Linen Manufacture at Glasgow—that the chief Branches carried on at that Place are Clear and Long Lawns, Cambricks, Checks, and Check Handkerchiefs, Cotton and Linen-mixed for Handkerchiefs, Cotton and Linen Cloths, white Linen in Imitation of the *Irish* Fabrick, Tapes or Inkle in Imitation of the Dutch, and Silk Gauzes, and many others—that all these Branches are now in a languid State—that the Clear Lawn, for these Four or Five Years past, is reduced to One Tenth of its former Quantity, and that the Diminution within the last Eight Months is not less than Four Tenths—that the Branch of Long Lawns employed most of the Weavers, who had been employed in the Clear Lawns, until within these Eight Months; but there is not a Demand now for all that is made; and imagined there is about a Fourth or One Fifth of the Weavers, within Ten Miles round Glasgow, now idle; and that the whole Number of Weavers in that District is not less than 7 or 8,000—that the Calculation made in 1767 related only to the Weavers employed in one particular Branch of the Manufactory (*viz.* the Clear Lawns) and by that Calculation they were made to amount to 3,200, in order to be laid before Parliament, to shew how many Weavers would suffer, if that Branch was not encouraged, by continuing the Prohibition upon the Importation of French Cambricks—that if the Branch of Long Lawns was encouraged, it would employ all the Weavers who are now idle, in the District of Glasgow, and a great many more; which could be done by an Encouragement of our Printed Linens in Foreign Markets, in Competition with Foreign Linen printed, the Fabrick and Quality being fully equal—that Two Persons can print as many Goods as will employ between 1,000 and 1,200 People to manufacture from the Flax, exclusive of those employed in raising and preparing it—that very little Home-made Linen is (when printed) exported at present; and that those who do send any Abroad, do it more for the Encouragement of the Manufacturer than from any Expectation of Profit—that the Fall of the Clear Lawns was occasioned by the Fall of Mullins, which threw more of the Manufacturers into the Long Lawn Branch—and that the Quantity of Clear Lawns made, is reduced to One Tenth of what it formerly was. And being asked, What will be the Consequence of not giving Encouragement to the Linen Manufactory? he said, That the Weavers will emigrate chiefly to America, and the Masters will certainly apply to some other Branch. And being asked, How much a Spinner can get by a Day's Work? he said, Three Pence or Four Pence, when they do nothing else; but that at present there is not Employment for them all.

Your Committee called,

Mr. George Goldie; who being examined, said, He was concerned in the Linen Trade in Edinburgh, as Factor for the Manufacturers at the Linen Hall, established by the Board of Trustees, which Board was instituted there in the Year 1727.

Produced an Extract from their Accounts of Linen stamped in Scotland, since the above Period; *viz.*

1727 to 1728	2,183,978 Yards,	Value £. 103,312
1747	6,661,788	268,866
1757	9,764,408	401,511
1766	13,224,557	637,346

That the Quantity has diminished very much lately, and there is a Prospect of its diminishing a great deal more; and that the Weavers and Spinners in Scotland are in the greatest Distress, owing to their Want of Employment, as appeared by several Letters he had lately received from thence: And he produced to Your Committee a Letter from William Sandeman, a Manufacturer at Perth, and also Two Extracts of Letters from Richard Neilson, at Dundee (exact Copies of which are annexed in Appendix,

dix, No. 1, 2, and 3.) And he confirmed the Evidence of Mr. *Biggar*, with respect to the present State of the Manufacture in the Counties of *Fife* and *Perth*, and the neighbouring Counties; and added, that the *British* and *Irish* Linens are very well liked by Drapers, for printing for Home Consumption; but that they are intirely excluded from the Export Trade, by a Drawback being allowed on the Foreign Linens, and no Bounty upon the Home-made, since the Year 1753—that the Damask and Diaper Trade is in a very declining State, particularly the coarse Diapers and fine Damasks—that the Goods which interfere with this Species of the Home Manufacture are, the Diapers and Huckabacks from *Russia*, and the fine Diapers and Damasks from *Germany*—that the *Silesia* Damasks are particularly low rated, because they are of equal Quality with the *Dutch*, and only rated in the Book of Rates at One-fourth of their Value—that, in his Opinion, it would be of great Advantage to the Home Manufactures, if the *Silesia* Damasks and Diapers were rated equal to, and paid the same Duty as, the *Dutch*. And being asked, To what he attributed the general Distress of the Linen Manufacture? he said, To the increased Importation of Foreign Linen. And being asked, What is the Amount of the Duty on Foreign Linen imported? he said, It was £. 230,953 from January 1771 to 1772, which, on an Average, does not amount to Two Pence per Yard—that unated Linens are subject to a Duty of 26 *l.* 14 *s.* 8 *d.* per Cent. on the Value sworn to by the Importer—that the Value of Foreign Linens imported annually is something above £. 1,000,000, and that the Net Duties retained by Government, after deducting Bounties, Drawbacks, and Charges of Collection, amount only to about

£. 40,622, which is nearly 2 *per Cent.* on the Amount of the Value imported—that of the Twenty-eight million of Yards imported, above Twenty-five millions are rated under 6 *d.* 2-5ths per Yard, and Fifteen millions are entered as Narrow Germany, and only pay 1 *d.* per Yard—that by the Act of the 4th and 5th of *William* and *Mary*, all Linens coming from *Germany*, under 7-8ths in Breadth, were rated as Narrow Germany, the Average Value of which is from 1 *s.* and 2 *d.* to 1 *s.* and 3 *d.*—that the Quantities of Linen imported from *Holland*, and of chequered Linens imported, are very small; the Reason of which Decrease in the Importation of these Articles is, that Linens from *Holland* are rated very near the real Value, and all chequered Linens are subject by Law to 30 per Cent. Duty, *ad Valorem*, over and above the other Duties on Foreign Linens—that, in his Opinion, the Manufacture of Great Britain and Ireland, if properly encouraged, would, in a few Years, supply the whole Demand; as in the Year 1770 *Scotland* and *Ireland* made above Thirty-eight millions of Yards for Sale. And being asked, If Sail Cloth, Checks, printed Linens, and Italian Crapes, are stamped on Importation? he said, They are. And being asked, What is the Charge of stamping Linen in *Scotland*? he said, One Penny for every Twenty Yards, if the Linen is above Ten Pence a Yard in Value, and One Halfpenny, if under that Value—that if Foreign Linens were subject to the Charge of being stamped, it would raise from 3 to £. 5,000 a Year on the present Quantity imported, which would form a sufficient Fund for paying the proper Officers. And being asked, What is the Value of Goods exported to *Ireland* and *Germany* from *England*? he produced the following Extracts; *viz.*

VALUE of *English* Manufactures, and Foreign Merchandize, exported from *London*, and the Out Ports of *England*, to *Germany* and *Ireland*, from *Christmas* 1765 to *Christmas* 1766.

Extracted from Ledger of Imports and Exports, attested by *John Temkyns*, Assistant Inspector General.

<i>English</i> Manufactures.			To <i>Germany</i> .	To <i>Ireland</i> .
From <i>London</i>	—	—	888,307 18 7	—
to <i>Germany</i>	—	577,563 13 2		
From Out Ports	—	—	—	933,152 4 6
to <i>Ireland</i>	—	293,336 12 3		
From Out Ports	—	639,815 12 3	—	—
Foreign Merchandize, by Certificate in Time.				
From <i>London</i>	—	—	877,300 2 11	—
to <i>Germany</i>	—	626,430 10 8		
From Out Ports	—	—	—	903,945 9 8
to <i>Ireland</i>	—	250,869 12 3		
From <i>London</i>	—	—	—	—
to <i>Ireland</i>	—	314,110 14 7		
From Out Ports	—	589,834 15 1	—	—
Foreign Merchandize, by Certificate out of Time.				
From <i>London</i>	—	—	45,660 0 9	—
to <i>Germany</i>	—	24,384 3 6		
From Out Ports	—	—	—	82,918 5 4
to <i>Ireland</i>	—	21,275 17 3		
From <i>London</i>	—	—	—	—
to <i>Ireland</i>	—	74,330 2 9		
From Out Ports	—	8,588 2 7	—	—
Total	£.	1,811,268 2 3	1,920,015 19 6	

Your Committee called, Mr. *William Cheap*, who being examined, said, He is a Linen Manufacturer at *Edinburgh*—that the Manufacture there is greatly on the Decline, and has been so for about Eight Years past—that the Diminution has

been about One Third; and that he does not now do Two Thirds of the Business he formerly did, though he believed he dealt more considerably than any other Manufacturer in *Scotland*, in the fine Table Linen—that he imputed the Cause of this Decline to the Importation of Foreign

Foreign Linen, which are sold at lower Prices than the Manufacturers in Great Britain are able to afford them; which is chiefly owing to the Price of Labour and Materials being so much lower Abroad than here—that the Price of Labour may be about Ten Pence a Day to the Weaver in Scotland; and, from the best Information he had been able to collect of the Prices of Labour in Russia and Germany, they are from Two Pence to Six Pence a Day to the Weaver—that he has conversed on this Subject with several Persons from Russia and Germany, and knows that Materials are brought hither from those Countries, which shews that they are cheaper there—that during the War he believed the People in Germany were employed in the Army, and harassed with Military Movements, and the Expence of Insurances and Freight were much higher—that he has found by Comparison, that his own Manufacture of Damasks was equal in Quality to any Foreign he ever saw, and that the same is acknowledged by the Persons he deals with in Town, who say that his Prices are higher than the Foreign; and that they therefore purchase but a small Quantity of his Manufacture in Proportion to the Foreign—that in his Opinion the Difference of Price is 15 per Cent. at least—that the usual Run of his Damasks is Four Shillings per square Yard; but that he makes as high as Eight Shillings and Six Pence per square Yard, though but in small Quantities, for Want of a Demand; and that he would be glad to sell all his picket Stock of Goods on Hand at Prime Cost—that the rated Value of Foreign Table Linen imported, is about £. 27,000, but from the Quality of the Goods he believes their Value to be full £. 60,000; the Whole of which might be easily manufactured at Home, in Addition to what is done at present—that the Value of the Materials, in Proportion to the Labour, in Plain Linen of about One Shilling a Yard, is One Fourth; in Diapers, One Sixth; and in fine Damasks, One Eighth: And he confirmed the Evidence of the Distress of the Linen Manufacture in Scotland, and that the Want of Employ is the Cause of the Riots which lately happened in the manufacturing Counties; and that he believes One Third of the Weavers are at present out of Employ, and that they cannot get Work in any other Branch.—Under Table Linen, he said, he comprehended Huckabacks, being a Species of Diaper—that very little Foreign Yarn is used in Scotland.

Your Committee called,

Mr. . . . Harvey, a Linen Manufacturer in the County of Somerset; who being examined, said, That a great Quantity of Linen is made in the Eastern Parts of the County, and some in all Parts of it—that the Linens made there are chiefly Dowls, Sheeting, and Bed Ticks—that Dowls, about Seven Years ago, sold from Thirteen Pence to Fifteen Pence a Yard, and now is sold from Ten Pence to a Shilling—that Sheeting, which sold from One Shilling and Six Pence to Three Shillings a Yard, now sells from One Shilling and Four Pence to Two Shillings and Six Pence—that Ticking, sold from One Shilling and Four Pence to Three Shillings, and now they sell from One Shilling and Two Pence to Two Shillings and Four Pence, although the Goods of each Sort, when made of Home Yarn, are now as good as they were formerly—that the Price has declined gradually for these Seven Years past, but most in the Two last—that a great Number of Looms have been left off; but he could not say how many—that the Goods were partly made of Home Yarn and partly of Foreign, but the Dowls's mostly of Home Yarn—that Half of the Spinners are out of Employment, and in his Opinion another Year will discharge Half the Weavers—that Dowls and Ticks cannot be made good without a Proportion of Home Yarn—about Half in the Dowls, and One Third in the Ticks—that is the Warp or Chain, which requires stronger Yarn than the Foreign—that the Sheeting may be made entirely of the Foreign Yarn (which chiefly comes from Hamburgh) but not so good as when the Warp or Chain

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is Home Yarn, and it is still much better when the Cloth is made intirely of Home Yarn—that they use Foreign Yarn now, because it comes cheaper; and as they cannot sell their Goods at the former Prices, they cannot afford them to good in Quality—that they now make the Narrow Dowls and Bed Ticks chiefly, the Sheeting being mostly left off—that the Quantity of Dowls made is diminished, but the Ticks rather increased—that the Foreign Dowls is used in Place of Home made, but the Foreign Ticks, he believed, are subject to high Duties—that there are great Quantities of the Ticks now on Hand, both in the Country and in the Warehouses in London; and he said, He did not believe that any Person could now sell Twenty Pieces of Tick, though he was to lose 5 per Cent. by it, he having tried to do without Success—that the Reason of this is, too many Ticks being made for the Consumption, which is not considerable, and is overdone by so many Looms being turned from Dowls to making Ticks—that he does not believe the present Price of the several Articles affords a reasonable Profit to the different Hands employed in the Manufactory—that the Price of Spinning has fallen near Three Pence in a Shilling, and the Price of Weaving must soon fall, but is kept up at present, because the Manufacturers must work up the Yarn which they have on Hand—that in the Place where he lives, and where he is Overseer of the Poor, and in the next adjoining Parish, where he has some Property, the Poor Rates are increased a full Third, which he believed was intirely owing to the Decline of the Linen Manufactory—that the People are desirous of Work, but cannot get Employment, and are quiet notwithstanding the Lowness of Wages—that the Value of Labour in the above-mentioned Species of Goods is more than 3-4ths of the Value, the Labourer being paid 9 d. 4 out of every Shilling's worth of Goods, when they are made intirely of Home Yarn—that a great Deal of Flax is raised in the County of Somerset, and the Homepun Yarn chiefly made of it—that the Foreign Goods are as good as the Home Manufactures made of Foreign Yarn, but the Foreign Cloth is sold cheaper—that the great Market for their Goods was Exeter Fair, Four Times a Year; but now a full Third less is sold there, and the Price is so low that nothing is got by making the Goods; but the Manufacturer persists, in Hopes of better Times, though many of them have left off—that he had been in the County, and conversed with the other Manufacturers, at Two great Meetings, a few Days before his Examination—that they made the best Calculation of the Number of People employed in the Counties of Hants, Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset, and that they computed that there were, within these Seven Years, about Thirty Thousand employed in the Linen Manufacture, and that Five out of Seven were Spinners, of whom One Half are now idle—that the Manufactory might be greatly extended, if properly encouraged; but that he does not know any Branch the Manufacturers could betake themselves to, if the Linen Manufactory is not encouraged, for the Woollen Manufacture is in Distress likewise, owing to the great Importation of the coarse Russia Linen Drabs; for the Country People now wear Coat, Waistcoat, and Breeches of that Linen, in Place of Woollen.

Your Committee called,

Mr. Richard Harris; who being examined, said, That he is a Wholesale Linen Draper in London, both in the Shipping of Linens and Home Consumption—that he deals in Foreign and in British and Irish Linens, but does not import any Foreign—that he preferred the Irish Linen for printing Garments, and Scotch Linen for Handkerchiefs for Home Consumption; but for printed Linen for Exportation, he should choose Silesias and Garlix, because of the Drawback—that the Medium Price of Irish Linen printed for Garments is about 1 s. and 1 d. per Yard; Scotch for Handkerchiefs, about Nine Pence or Ten Pence per Yard; the Foreign for Exportation for Garments, about Eleven Pence per

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Yard; and the Handkerchiefs for Exportation to *Germany*, about Ten Pence; and the Price of *Hamborough* Lawns for Handkerchiefs, for Exportation to the *West India* Islands, is about 1s. and 1d.—that when the Drawback is returned to the Exporter, it reduces the Price of the Two first near One Penny Three Farthings per Ell, and of the *Hamborough* Lawns abovementioned, Three Pence per Yard—that the additional Price of the Goods, after Printing, is, upon the lower Species, Six Pence per Yard, and upon the better Sort of Goods, up as high as Two Shillings, and some few at Two Shillings and Six Pence per Yard—that it is chiefly the lower Sort that is exported; and that the *Silecias* and *Garlix* are entered as *Narrow Germany*, both at Importation and Exportation—that the Names given by the Trade to the different Species of Linen entered as *Narrow Germany* are, *Dowlas* 3-4ths broad, worth from Five Pence to Twelve Pence Farthing per Yard; 7-8ths *Dowlas*, worth from Seven Pence Three Farthings to Fifteen Pence Halfpenny per Yard—*Silecias* are all 7-8ths in Breadth, and are worth from 7d. to 17d. 1/2 per Yard; *Garlix*, 3-4ths wide, worth from Five Pence Three Farthings to Eleven Pence Halfpenny, and 7-8ths *Garlix*, from Eight Pence Halfpenny to Twelve Pence Halfpenny per Yard—that there is another Sort of Foreign Linen, which are brown, called *Osnaburghs*, which are exported as *Narrow Germany*, though the Name is in the Book of Rates at Seven Pence per Yard at an Average; but they are worth from Five Pence to Eight Pence a Yard—that the largest Quantity exported is about Seven Pence, and these Prices are before the receiving the Drawback, and therefore include the Duties paid on Importation.

Your Committee next examined,

Mr. *John H. Wiers* of *Cheapside*, who is in the same Branches of the Linen Trade as the foregoing Witnesses, and said, That he did not now import any Foreign Linens, but did formerly—that the greatest Part of Foreign Linens are imported under the Denomination of *Narrow Germany*—that *Dowlas* and *Silecias* bear a great Proportion to the Quantity imported under that Name—that *Silecias* are chiefly imported in order to be printed (Part of which go to the *American Colonies*, and Part return to *Germany* after being printed here)—that he supplied the Medium Price before Printing, including the Duty, may be Eight Pence Halfpenny per Yard—that the Printing Trade for the Home Consumption is chiefly of *British* and *Irish* Linens; but for Exportation, the Foreign is used, and some of the Home, particularly of Cotton and Linen mixed; and that the Drawback makes the Foreign Linen more favourable for Exportation—that they esteem the Home Linen more fit for Printing than the Foreign; he could not say how the Foreigners would like them, but believed they would be preferred in the Colonies, if they could be sent there upon equal Terms—that he is a Dealer in Foreign Damasks, which are chiefly imported from *Saxony* and *Silesia*—that the greatest Quantity imported are from Two Yards to Two and an Half wide—that the Average Value of those that are Two Yards wide, is about Five Shillings a Yard, and the Average Value of those Two Yards and an Half wide, is about Six Shillings a Yard—that he had sold One Table Cloth and Two Dozen of Napkins from £. 18. to £. 20. but that very few so fine are imported—that no Damasks are imported now from *Holland*, nor has he seen any during the Thirty-five Years he has been in Trade—that the Diapers are much the same Breadth with the Damasks, and the greatest Quantities imported are from Two Yards to Two Yards and an Half wide, and the Average Prices about One Shilling a Yard lower than the Damasks—that he never saw any *Dutch* Diapers, and is of Opinion, that the *Scotch* Diapers are equal to the Foreign, but the Damasks much inferior—that *Dantzick* Rolls are sold at *Hull* cheaper than at *London*—that they are a coarse Cloth from Four Pence Halfpenny to Six Pence

an Ell, used for Hop-Bags and such Purposes; and some are exported and have a Drawback—that formerly 7-8ths *Garlix* was used for clothing the Army, but of late Years, the Witnesses believed, they have chiefly made Use of *Irish* and *Scotch*—that he has sold *Russia* Linen for that Purpose about Three Years ago—that the Duties laid about Three Years ago on Spruce and Hessian Canvas, and Broad Linen, *Hamborough* and *Holland* whited Lawns, did raise the Price at first, but now they are fallen nearly to the same Price as formerly; but there is no great Demand for them for Home Consumption—that Foreign Linens have fallen in Price within these last Seven Years, but not every Article; for *Russia* Goods in particular, on which the additional Duty was laid, are still above the former Price; and that *British* and *Irish* Linens have also fallen much in the same Proportion.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *John Jeanes*, a Linen Manufacturer in *Somersetshire*; who confirmed the Evidence of Mr. *Harvey* with respect to the Sorts of Goods made there—the Alteration in the Price of each Article—the Failure of One Branch, and the Overstock of another—the Quantities remaining on Hand—the Loss to the Trader—the Fall of the Price of Spinning—the Number of Hands formerly employed, and now out of Employ—and the general deplorable State of the Manufacture in all its Branches; and every other Part of Mr. *Harvey's* Evidence.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *John Clement*, a Linen Manufacturer at *Darlington*, in the County of *Durham*; who informed Your Committee, That the Manufacture there is chiefly *Huckaback*—that Six Years ago the Trade was extended to £. 15,000 a Year, but now it is decreased One Half—that this Diminution is chiefly owing to the Foreign Linens being cheaper, and that they have a full Year's Making of Goods on Hand—that in his Opinion the Manufacture cannot go on in its present State—that some of the Manufacturers have entirely given up, and others have been broke—that the Poor Rates have increased 10 per Cent. owing to the People's wanting Employment, and the Price of Spinning being fallen—that most of the People there are Manufacturers—that the Price of Labour is about Two Thirds of the Value of the Goods—that their *Huckabacks* are allowed to be equally good with the Foreign; and that the Dealers do not object to the Quality, but the Price—that 4-5ths of the *Huckabacks* made in *Darlington* come to *London*, and that the Manufacture might easily be extended to what it was, or further, if they had Sales—that they have lowered their Linens 5 per Cent. within these Three Years, and if they were to continue to lessen the Price, the Labourer could not live—that he has been engaged in the Manufacture Twenty Years—that the Demand for Home-made Linen was greater during the War than since; but that it has been less for these last Five Years, than any Five Years of the Ten preceding the War—that the finer Goods, which interfere with *Huckabacks*, come from *Silesia*, and the coarser from *Russia*—that *Huckabacks* are exported to the Colonies, as he is informed. And being asked, If any *English* or *Scotch* Manufactures do, as he apprehends, interfere with their Manufacture of *Huckabacks*? he said, Every Manufacture that comes to Market must interfere with Goods of the same Quality; but that the principal Cause of their present Distress is the Importation of Foreign Linen, the Interference of Home-made Linens not being greater than it was before—that the Decrease of the Consumption this Year, and the Increase of the Goods on Hand, is not owing to the general Stagnation of Trade, and Distress of Credit—that it may have had some Effect, but the Diminution has been gradual for the last Six Years. And being asked, What were the Wages of the best Weavers, and where the Yarn was procured? he said, That the best Hands have from Seven Shillings to Eight Shillings a Week, and some

not above Three Shillings; and that the Flax is imported from *Holland and Riga*, and spun at Home.

Your Committee again called,

Mr. *George Goldie*, who produced several Letters directed to him, from *Bromgrove*, in *Worcestershire*, *Darlington*, in the County of *Durham*, and *Craiborne*, in *Yorkshire*; which confirm the general Distress of the Linen Manufactures, and are annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 4, 5, and 6.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Alexander Anderson*; who being examined, said, He has been engaged in the Linen Trade, as a Factor in *British Linens*, in *London*, for Twenty-two Years—that the Trade has been in a bad Situation for these Two Years past—that he has large Quantities of Goods on Hand, which he cannot sell, even with a Loss, particularly *Osnaburghs*, which he has lowered in the Price from 6<sup>d</sup>. to 5<sup>d</sup>. a Yard, and which he said he knew to be the Case with other Factors in *London*—that the Complaints of his Correspondents in the Country, concerning the State of the Trade, are very general; and that, at the present Price the Manufacturers get for their Labour, they cannot go on; and he produced to Your Committee, a Letter from *James Duncan*, at *Perth* (an exact Copy of which is annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 7;) and concluded by saying, that he imputed the Decline in the Linen Manufactory to the Importation of Foreign Linens.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Martin Perrie*, of *London*, who is concerned in the Linen Trade as a Draper and Merchant Importer, both from *Ireland* and *Abroad*; who informed Your Committee, That in the Year 1761, he furnished Mr. *John Ellis* (Agent to the Linen Board of *Ireland*) with a Variety of Samples of Foreign Linens, which were transmitted to the Linen Board, with an Invoice (an exact Copy of which is annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 8)—that this Invoice contains the principal Articles of Foreign Linens imported, except *Garlix*, *Damasks*, *Diaper Tablings*, and some other Articles—that the Prices affixed were such as those Kinds were sold at by Wholesale, and not the Retail Prices—that the Prices are now considerably lower, more than 15 per Cent. on some Articles, and more than 20 per Cent. upon others; such as *Long Lawns*, *Dowlais*, &c.—that against each Article in the Invoice, he has distinguished the Titles under which they are entered at the Custom House—that most of the Articles in the said Invoice are entered as *Narrow Germany* at the Custom House.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Robert Stephenson*, Inspector to the Trustees of the Linen Manufacture of *Ireland*; who informed Your Committee, That he had taken a State of the Linen Manufacture of *Ireland* Fourteen different Times—that he had been particularly attentive in his Enquiries into the State of the Linen Manufacture, from the Time of its being first adopted as the Staple of *Ireland*, in 1698; and that he had been concerned in the Manufacture for Thirty Years—that in the Year 1700 the Exports from *Ireland* were no more than £. 14,112 in Linen, and £. 39,106. 10s. 4d. in Linen Yarn, as appeared by an Account taken by him from the Custom House Books of *Ireland*, which Account he produced to Your Committee, and is annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 9—that the Manufacture proceeded by very slow Degrees until the Linen Board was appointed, in 1709—that by Grants of Parliament to the Linen Board, and distributed under their Directions by Premiums to the Public, and vast Sums expended by private Individuals, to encourage the Manufacture, it increased gradually to the 25th of March 1771—that the Medium of the Exports of Linen, for Five Years preceding that Time, is £. 1,364,886. 11s. 8d. per Annum, and in Linen Yarn, £. 202,456. 17s. 6d.—that from the above Period it has been declining in so great a Measure, that when the

Accounts of the Manufacture were made up to March 1772, which Accounts he has seen, it appeared to have sunk Five million of Yards, Value about £. 350,000, below the Amount of the Export of the immediate preceding Year; and that though the Account to March 1773 is not yet made up, he could speak with Certainty, from the Surveys he had made of the Country, and the Accounts returned to him by the several Claimants of Premiums, that the Manufacture was declining still further in the Year 1772—that in the present Year the great increased Stock of *Irish Linen* unfold, in the Markets of *Great Britain* and in *Ireland*, has put almost an intire Stop to the Currency of Trade in the Country—that from attested Information, as well as his own Knowledge, he could say, that not less than One full Third of the Inhabitants employed in the Manufacture are turned totally idle, having no other Trade or Manufacture to turn their Hands to; such of them as have Money enough to pay their Passage are getting away to *America*—that from attested Accounts he had received from the Ports of *Newry*, *Belfast*, *Larne*, *Port Ruff*, and *Derry*, and from his own Knowledge of the rest of the Ports of *Ireland*, he was confident that not less than Thirty thousand have emigrated, to *America* within the last Two Years, and almost every one of them Manufacturers of Linen—that the Numbers are estimated by the Tonnage of the Shipping employed wholly in carrying Passengers, there being advertised no less than 4,250 Tons of Shipping in April, taking in Passengers at Three Northern Ports, exclusive of such as are to his Knowledge going from *Dublin*, *Waterford*, *Cork*, *Limerick*, *Galloway*, and *Sligoe*, which carry One Person, and often more, to every Ton—that from the Information he has lately received, the Necessities of the People, from their Want of Employment, will be a Means of increasing the Emigration this Year to Fifty or Sixty thousand—that the Persons going are generally wealthy Manufacturers, carrying with them large Sums of Money; and the general Spirit which at present prevails for Emigration, for Want of Business, would trip the manufacturing Counties totally of their Inhabitants, had they Money to pay their Passage—that he has been attentive to the Emigrations for Twenty-five Years; and that whilst there was Employment for the Inhabitants, by the Linen Manufacture being in a State of Prosperity, the Emigration decreased, and till within the last Three Years, never exceeded from Two to Three thousand in a Year; and is certain that nothing promotes the present Spirit, but a real Want of Employment—that in the Year 1770, One Third, or thereabouts, of the Inhabitants of *Ireland* were more or less employed in the Linen Manufacture; and that, if it was properly encouraged, it might be extended to every Part of *Ireland*—that from a particular View he took in 1771, by Direction of Parliament, and of the Linen Board, he stated the Share each County possessed of the Linen Manufacture at that Time, and he found that there were not more than Four Counties; viz. *Antrim*, *Down*, *Armagh*, and *Derry*, considerably employed in the Manufactory, and those not fully; and he produced to Your Committee, an Account of the Value of Linens sent by each County, which is annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 10. And being asked, If he believed the Emigrations of the People were in any Degree owing to the Superabundance of the Inhabitants? he said, That the Emigrations of the People were not in any Degree owing to the Superabundance of the Inhabitants, hardly any Parts of the Country being fully peopled. And being asked, If the different Parts of the Manufacture increased equally up to the Year 1771? he said, The coarser Branches did not increase in equal Proportions with the fine, because the Rates and Duties charged upon the Importation of the finer Branches of *Holland* and *Flanders* Linen, being proportioned to their Value, give sufficient Encouragement to the Home Manufactures, so as to rival them at Market; and the

low Rates and Duties on Narrow Germany, and the different Branches of coarse Manufactures imported, not being proportioned to their Value, has prevented them from making such Progress in the coarser Branches of the Manufacture, which are those in which the Inhabitants might be engaged with most Advantage and Expedition, and would interfere with those imported from *Germany*, *Russia*, and the *East* Country. And being asked, If he is acquainted with the Quality of many Branches of the Foreign Linen Manufacture? he said, That he had procured many Samples of all those various Manufactures, and had been very particular in the Examination of a Variety of the Foreign Linen Manufactures, when he lived in *London* 30 Years ago, and since that Time, and had made many Experiments as a Manufacturer, and had many others made under his Direction in *Ireland*, in Imitation of various Branches of the *German*, *Russian*, *French*, and *Flanders* Manufactures, and could speak with Certainty, that there is none of them, but with proper Encouragement may be made to equal Perfection in *Ireland*; and from the Observations made by him, upon the Perfection *Ireland* has arrived to in fine Linens, within the last Twenty-five Years, he believes every Branch of those Manufactures might be made on very reasonable Terms, as they arrive at Perfection; as *Irish* fine Linens, from the best Observations he has made within the last Thirty Years, are from 25 to 30 per Cent. cheaper than they were at that Period, besides their being made better in every Respect, so as to give them a Preference to the *Dutch* and *Flanders* Linens; whereby the Consumers are supplied with that Branch of the Manufacture so much cheaper than they could possibly have been by the Foreign; and he believes similar Encouragement in the lower Branches, and in the Lawn Manufactures, would produce equal Effects. And being asked, What Effect the Importation of Foreign Lawns has upon the Trade of *Ireland*; he said, They had an increasing Trade in *Ireland* in the Lawn Manufactures, but he had observed of late Years (particularly since the Act passed by which Lawns are distinguished into *Holland*, and not *Holland* whited) they are imported in a much greater Quantity into *England*, by which Means that Trade in *Ireland* has decreased, and he believed would be entirely destroyed, unless Duties adequate to their Value are charged upon them, which he believed was not the Case at present—that *French* Cambricks, and also all Sorts of *French* Lawns, are introduced under the Head of *Holland* whited. He further said, That if there was not a Stop put to those Branches, by higher Duties, Linens to answer the Purpose of Shirtings, which must now be entered as *Holland* and *Flanders* Linen, and pay a high Duty, being made a Degree slighter, and under a Yard wide, might be introduced under the Denomination of *Holland* whited Lawns, and would cut out their fine Linen Manufactures at Market; as he observed the Foreigners in all their Manufactures were very attentive in changing the Lengths, Breadths, and Mode of dressing and making up their Manufactures, so as to make them fall under those Denominations which were liable to the lowest Duties—that considerable Quantities of Damask had been made in *Ireland*, but that they are underbilled by the *Silesia* Damask, in the Markets of *Great Britain*; and that to his certain Knowledge, above Half of the Looms that were employed in that Manufacture were stop—that the Damask Manufacture has been decreasing for Four or Five Years past (though the Linen Board were at a considerable Expence in encouraging that Manufacture)—that he has compared the Foreign Damask with the *Irish* many Times, and found the latter the best; and that the Dealers in the Trade allow them to be so—that the Reason of this Decline in that Branch is, that *French* Damask is imported as *Silesia* into *Great Britain*, and pays only about One Fourth of the *Dutch* Duties—that the Duties are so low on the Foreign Damask, and those in a great Degree drawn back in *England*, upon

Exportation to *Ireland*, where the Import Duties are low, that they underbill all the *Irish* Manufactures so much, that they are used there for Home Consumption.—As to the Diapers, the *Irish* had a great Share in that Manufacture and Trade Twenty Years ago, but the Importation of *Silesia* and *Russia* Diapers, on such low Duties, has lessened the Trade very much from that Period down to the present Time; and that, in his Opinion, the Exportation of Diapers from *Ireland* will soon be at an End, unless higher Duties are laid upon the Foreign; for that they do not export One Fourth of the Quantity of Diapers they did Twenty Years ago. And being asked, What is the present State of the Sail Cloth Manufacture? he said, Great Pains had been taken, and much Money expended, both by Parliament and the Linen Board, to establish that Manufacture, by raising Hemp for its Supply—that a considerable Progress was made in the Cultivation of Hemp, and the Manufacture of Sail Cloth arrived to so great Perfection, that he had been informed no Sail Cloth whatever exceeded them in Quality; but as their Dependence for the Consumption of this Manufacture was on *Great Britain* and its Dominions, the raising of Hemp in *Ireland*, and the Manufacture of Sail Cloth, was in a great Measure stopp'd, by an Act passed in *England*, in or about the Year 1750, whereby a Duty of Two Pence a Yard is charged upon all Sail Cloth of the Value of Ten Pence, and under One Shilling and Two Pence; and Four Pence on all Sail Cloth of the Value of One Shilling and Two Pence or upwards, that had received the Bounty granted on Sail Cloth made of *Irish* Hemp in *Ireland*—that by these Means the *Irish* Sail Cloth Manufacture declined, the Growth of Hemp in *Ireland* was discouraged and destroyed, and the Foreigners obtained almost the sole Possession of the Market. And being asked, What Quantities of Linen are now on Hand in *Ireland*? he said, That in *Dublin* he believed there were Goods of the Manufacture of 1772, to the Value of £. 200,000, unsold, about the First of April last, in the Hands of the Factors—that there never was known so much as £. 20,000 Value in the Factors Hands at that Time of the Year, except since the Manufacture began to decline, in the Years 1771 and 1772—that there were also large Quantities in the Hands of different Drapers in the Country, who would not send them to Market, as there was no Sale for them, though they offered to sell them at 10 per Cent. under Prime Cost.—That Linens of the new Bleach of this present Year was beginning to come to Market, several Parcels of which he saw the First Week in April; and that by the latter End of June, when all the First Bleach of this Year will be off the Greens, he was certain, from the great Stock of the last Year on Hand, and the Stock of this Year coming together, a Circumstance never experienced in the Kingdom before, it will create such a general Stagnation in the Trade and Credit of the Country, as must be attended with the most fatal Effects, and that immediately, and in its Consequences, must greatly affect the Imports from *Great Britain*. And being asked, What Proportion the Labour bears to the actual Value of the Linen Manufacture? he said, That from some Calculations he had made, he was of Opinion, that Eleven Parts in Twelve of the Manufacture of *Ireland* is a Profit to the Country, because very near all the Flax is raised there—that the Deductions from the gross Quantities of Linen and Yarn, for Home Consumption and Exportation, are, from £. 60 to 80,000 worth of Flax Seed imported annually, chiefly from *America*; Ashes for the various Purposes of Bleaching, to the Amount from £. 60 to 80,000; and Flax to the Amount of about £. 20,000 a Year—that the other Deductions, such as Indigo, Smalts, Blue, &c. are inconsiderable—that a Weaver can earn Eight Pence a Day, and a good Spinner about Two Pence Halfpenny, with which Wages they go on very well—and that there are no Duties by the Laws of *Ireland* on the Materials

used

used for Bleaching, nor upon Flax Seeds; but there is a Duty of £. 2. a Ton on Flax imported. And being asked, Whether feeling all Foreign Linens at Importation would be attended with any, and what, good Effects, or how their Value at Importation could be ascertained, and illicit Trade prevented? he said, He was persuaded, that something is necessary to be done to ascertain the Value of Foreign Linens on their Importation, and prevent their being entered or exported under wrong Denominations, to the Prejudice of the Home Manufacturer and the Revenue—that he approved the Method proposed, of sealing all Foreign Linens on Importation; and is of Opinion that a Person ought to be appointed, under the Direction of the Merchants dealing particularly in *British* and *Irish* Linens, in each Port, to inspect the Quality and Value of the Foreign Goods imported, as an Assistant to the Revenue Officers, in order to prevent the Mischief above complained of, and to be paid by an additional Tax proportioned to the Duties on the Foreign Linens—that he had Reason to believe the *British* and *Irish* Linens pay 14 per Cent. on Importation into Spain, but the French Linens only pay 4 per Cent. although, by the Treaties with Spain, the *British* Nation are to be on the same Footing, in Matters of Commerce, with the most favoured Nations; and is certain, that they can make the Species of Goods (called *Britannias*) for the Spanish Markets, equally good with the French, he having manufactured several Parcels himself as Experiments, and had them sold in Spain for several Years; and he gave it up, as the Returns were long in coming round—that the Spanish Trade for Linens would be of great Importance, as he is informed the Consumption of Spain and its Dominions, in Linen, exceeds the Consumption of Britain and its Colonies.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. George Carleton, of Dublin; who being examined, said, He had been a Merchant there, chiefly in the Linen Branch, about Thirty Years, and is now concerned in the Damask Manufacture; and he confirmed what Robert Stephenson, of Dublin, has given in Evidence of the great Decline of the Linen Trade of that Kingdom, and believed it to proceed from the Causes assigned by him—that the Sale of *Irish* Linens was declining, particularly since the Year 1770, yet the Quantity did not decrease, the Manufacturers still going on and working up their Stocks on Hand, in Expectation the Sale would mend; but finding by Experience it has declined much more, they have this last Winter discontinued One Half of their Looms, by which great Number of Weavers and others, who got their Livelihood and Support by the Linen Manufacture, are now out of Employ, and having no other Business to follow, are emigrating with their Families to America, where he believed the Manufacture of Linens may be established, and enlarged to a great Extent, unless some Method is pursued to keep the Weavers, and others concerned in that Branch, at Home, by giving some Relief and Encouragement thereto—that the Linen Trade is the chief Dependence and Support of Ireland, the principal Export that brings any considerable Amount of Money into that Kingdom; is now in such a Situation as nearly to be lost; whereby the Kingdom must be destroyed, the Revenue of which is decreasing, and must continue to do so, while the Linen Trade is in such Distress, as from Produce thereof, the People of Ireland are enabled to import Goods from Great Britain and other Places, and by the Duties of which the Establishment is principally supported—that he has been concerned in the manufacturing of Damask Table Linen and Napkins at Two different Places in Ireland; and for the Reasons given by Robert Stephenson, as to this Particular, that Branch is greatly declined—that he has been connected in Sale of *Irish* Canvas or Sail Cloth, particularly with that made at Dowlags, near Cork, the Quality of which is equal to any *Holland* or Foreign Duck he has seen—that they could improve and enlarge this Manufacture,

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which is well conducted, if they had any Encouragement by a good and speedy Sale; but they are obliged to sell so low that the Owners have little or no Encouragement to continue the same—that the usual Quantity of Flax Seed was imported this Season as in former Years, the Quality of which, as good as ever he saw yet, was selling when he left Dublin, from Five to Ten Shillings per Hogthead under Prime Cost (the usual Value being about Sixty Shillings per Hogthead, the Loss is from 10 to 15 per Cent.) owing to the little Demand for this Article—that the People who usually sowed it, declined doing so, from an Apprehension that Flax would not be in any Demand, from the Situation of the *Irish* Linen Trade; all the Seed imported this Season was from America, when he left Dublin, and does not apprehend any was expected from Holland or any other Places. He confirmed the Quantity and Value of Linens in Hands of the Factors and Drapers of Dublin, as given in Evidence by Robert Stephenson, and that it is still Ten Times as much as in former Years, to that of 1770; and also confirmed what he said, that Great Britain and Ireland could in a few Years, on proper Encouragement given them, extend the Linen Manufacture, so as to supply the sundry Species of all Kinds necessary for the Consumption of those Kingdoms, and the Trade thereof.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. Thomas Fletcher, an Importer of, and Dealer in, *Irish* Linens, who had been in the Business nearly Twenty-three Years, as a Principal in London. And being asked, What has been the Situation of the Trade during that Time? he said, When he first began, it was rather on the Increase, and continued gradually so to do, until the Year 1757, when it was greatly benefited by a Bounty granted on White and Brown Linens the preceding Year—that soon after this the Trade was much enlarged and extended, in consequence of the War, which did, as he supposed, prevent the Germans from making their usual Quantities; this operated as a further Encouragement, and gave us the Command of the Markets; and that the People of Ireland availed themselves of those Opportunities to promote and enlarge their Trade, which they so far accomplished, that the Imports into London, from 1763 to 1771, increased from about Seven millions to about Sixteen millions of Yards; but since that Time, though no great Decrease has appeared in the Importation, yet the Linens have not been nearly sold; on the contrary, they have accumulated, and a great Part of them still remain on Hand, for Want of a Demand. And being asked, If he believed the Importation from June 1773 to June 1774 will be equal to the last Twelve Months; he said, That by all the Informations received from the manufacturing Counties in Ireland, the Imports from thence will be greatly lessened; as great Numbers of the Weavers have emigrated to America, and many more are preparing to go; besides that several of the most respectable Bleach Greens remain uncovered, which used to be filled; in Confirmation of which, he produced to your Committee Three Extracts of Letters from his Correspondents in Ireland (Copies of which are annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 11.) And being asked, What is the Cause of this Decline? he said, He believed the great Importation of Foreign Linens to be the principal Cause, particularly the Articles denominated, *Silesia* Linen, Dowlags, Damask, and Diapers—that the *Silesia* is a great Article against *Irish* Linens, it being applied chiefly to the Purpose of Printing; and as they draw back nearly the Duty paid on Importation, they intirely exclude our Linens in that improved State from being sent to a Foreign Market as Printed Linens—that the Quantities now on Hand unfold are, he believed, Five Times as great as the Average of any Seven Years since he had been in Trade—that a few Years back, when the Trade was flourishing, the Quantities on Hand were very inconsiderable—that from an Inspection into the Stock of some Houses in London this Week, he has no Doubt but there is equal to Two Thirds of the whole Importation of the last Twelve Months now on

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Hand,

Hand, although the Holders would submit to a Loss on the Sale of most Articles; to which must be added very large Quantities that remain in the Out Ports of this Kingdom, such as *Bristol, Liverpool, &c.* which Places, as he is informed, are glutted with *Irish* Linens, in like Manner as the *London* Market, in Proportion to their usual and several Demands—that there are, by the Bills of Entry which he has examined, upwards of Forty Importers this last Year in *London*, Eighteen of whom have about £. 450,000 Value on Hand—Ten more of the said Houses are considerable (of whom he had not got their Accounts)—the Remainder, being occasional Importers, are not esteemed considerable—that he believed the Whole to be not less than £. 600,000 in *London*; and that he had taken the Opinion of several other Gentlemen on this Subject, who agreed with him—that his own Stock on Hand now is upwards of £. 50,000—that he has known it as low as 5,000, and it seldom exceeded £. 10,000 in a bad Year, at this Season of the Year—that the Sales of their House have not been so considerable last Year as formerly, being from £. 20 to 35,000 deficient from what their annual Sales were heretofore on most Years—that he spoke from the Recollection of his Books, though he had not lately looked at them with that particular View; but that he could not be much mistaken—that all the Linens of last Year's Manufacture or Bleach are not come to Market, there being still very large Quantities of Linens on Hand in *Ireland*, which have been kept back on Account of the slow and bad Sale in *England*, and on them, as well as the Quantity now here, there must be a great Loss, when the Linens of this Year's Bleach come to Market, for which they are at this Time nearly ready, and some few arrived, but are not included in the former Account of Stock—that *German* Osnaburghs, and *Russia* Linen of various Sorts, such as Sheetings, narrow Diapers, Drabs, and Raven Ducks, interfere with the *Irish*. And being asked, If he thought *Great Britain* and *Ireland* could supply the whole Demand, if proper Encouragement was given? he said, He had no Doubt but that in a few Years they could make Linens to answer every Purpose of the Foreign Fabricks, and fully supply the Demand—that he forms his Judgment from the Encouragement that was given to their Linens for Shirting, from Two Shillings a Yard upwards, by heavy Duties laid on the *Holland* and *Flanders* Linens, which at that Time interfered as much with their fine Linens as the coarser Kinds of *German* and *Russia* do at present with the low—that he imagines it is now well known, and has been for some Years past, that we can supply the whole Consumption of fine Linens for Shirting, from 20 to 30 per Cent. cheaper than when the Duties were first laid on. And being asked, What the Price of *Irish* Linens has fallen, upon the Whole, since he remembers the Trade? he said, The finer Kinds are much cheaper in general, the lower vary much—that he has known 10 per Cent. Difference in the Price of the Manufacture in Twelve Months, on particular Branches—that they naturally fall one Year and rise another, according to the Quantity, and Demand for them—that this Time Three Years they had a smart Demand for all Goods, from Fourteen Pence to Two Shillings in Assortments, and they produced a Profit; at present they are glutted with those Kinds, and cannot sell for Cost. And being asked, If those finer Kinds have been chiefly encouraged, in Competition with the Foreign Linens? he said, They receive Encouragement by the heavy Duties laid on the Foreign Goods that interfere with them in this Market, and in Consequence the People of *Ireland* thought them the safest Article to make. And being asked, What he thought would be the Consequence, if speedy Relief be not given? he said, A very great Declension, if not a total Loss, of all the lower Branches of the Manufacture, which interfere with the Foreign Linens—this will turn the People adrift, and

if Encouragement be not speedily given, they must emigrate for want of Employment, and the Country be ruined, perhaps irrecoverably, by the Manufacturers going to *America*, where the Linen Trade, by their Means, may be established; in Confirmation of which, he produced to Your Committee Two Extracts of Letters from *Dublin* (Copies of which are annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 11.)

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Samuel Dyson*, an Importer of *Irish* Linen; who said, He had been in the Trade Eighteen Years in the Whole, Eleven as a Principal; and who, having heard Mr. *Fletcher's* Evidence read, confirmed the Whole of it; and added, that his own present Stock on Hand is nearly from £. 43 to 44,000—that for some Years past it has been increasing, but formerly it used not to exceed £. 10 or 12,000, and sometimes was under that—that the Sales of his House have varied very little for some Years past—that this Year they are something less than formerly; but the great Accumulation of Stock, which has been increasing some Years, he apprehended to be owing to the Interference of Foreign Linens.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Robert Rayment*, an Importer of *Irish* Linens; who said, He had been acquainted with the Business Eighteen Years, and he confirmed Mr. *Fletcher's* Evidence; and added, that he had made Enquiry himself, particularly with regard to the Stock in Hand in *London*, as also in *Dublin*, where he had very late been—that he had now between £. 26 and 27,000 Value on Hand; and in former Years, at this Time, had not more than £. 4 or 5,000, and never had so much before on Hand at this Time of the Year—that the Sales of his House have been declining for these Two Years past, and particularly this present Year, which is the Occasion of the great Stock on Hand. And being asked, If the Prices of *Irish* Linens have fallen upon the Whole, since he knew the Trade? he said, They had very considerably: In the Year 1763, the Price of Yarn in *Ireland* was about 2 s. and 10 d. a Spindle, which can be now bought for 2 s. and 3 d.; and that, in his Opinion, the Price of Linens must bear a general Proportion to the Price of the Yarn, though one particular Article may happen to vary in Price more than another, the Manufacturer always flying to that Article which he believes will sell the best—that he is concerned in manufacturing considerable Quantities of Linen in *Ireland*, One of which, in particular, consisted of from 3 to 400 Looms in the Article of Dowls and Sheetings, which he had entirely dropt for want of Sales, being unable to obtain the Cost of those Linens, when they are brought to the *London* Market; and that he imputed the Decline of those Articles to the great Importation of Foreign Linens that are now made Use of in Place of those Kinds.

Your Committee then called,

Mr. *Alexander Strahan*, a Custom House Officer in the Port of *London*; is well acquainted with the Practice of entering Linens; who being asked, If he had ever known one Species of Linen entered under the Denomination of another? said, He had known Cambricks entered as Long Lawns, and Long Lawns as Narrow Germany—that it is particularly his Business to look into that Matter, as he belongs to the Land Carriage; and that he was acquainted with those Two Kinds of Linens before he was appointed to the Office—that, in his Opinion, the present Practice is liable to many such Abuses in the Entries—that he lately made some Seizures of Cambricks, which were put up in the Packages of Long Lawns, and imagined they had been entered as such; and that he knew of a Seizure being made of Long Lawn, that was entered as Narrow Germany, and that he saw the Goods brought to the Custom House at *Rockester* after they were seized—that the Seizures made by him were in Consequence of private Information, and the Fraud was not detected at the Custom House—that



that all Foreign Painted, Printed, or Stained, Linens, except *East India* Goods, also all Sail Cloth, *Italian* Silk, Crapes, and formerly, all Foreign Silks, were stamped; but that now the Importation of these Silks is prohibited--that, in his Opinion, the stamping all Linen on Importation would prevent Frauds and Smuggling; and he concluded by saying, That some Time ago he had Occasion to know of great Quantities of Foreign Linen smuggled, before he was a Custom House Officer, and that he saw a large Seizure of Holland Cloth, about Eighteen Months ago, at the Custom House.

Then Mr. *Thomas Oakley*, a Custom House Officer in the Port of *London*, in the Land Carriage Department, being examined, said, He was acquainted with the Distinction of the different Species of Foreign Linens, having been in the Trade formerly--that he has known Cambricks entered as Long Lawns, and has

made Seizures of some made up like Long Lawns; and that he has also seen Cambricks brought to the Custom House, that were seized by other Officers--that the present Practice of Entry is liable to the like Abuse; but that if all Linens were stamped on Importation, it would prevent their being entered under any wrong Denomination, and in a great Measure prevent Smuggling--and that, about Twelve or Thirteen Years ago, he knew of great Quantities of *Flemish* Linen being smuggled.

Your Committee, in order to give the fullest Information to the House, have thought it their Duty to annex, by Way of Appendix to this Report, several Accounts which have been laid before them during the Course of this Enquiry (Copies of which are inserted in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.)

# A P P E N D I X.

N° 1.

Perth, 21st January 1773.

Dear Sir,

IT gave me singular Pleasure when I heard that you, and Mr. *McVicar*, were to set out for *London*, as Commissioners from the Convention of Burroughs, to solicit Parliamentary Aid for our Linen Manufacture. The Eyes of many will be towards you, wishing that you may be successful; for otherways the State of the Country presents a dismal Prospect. It now comes to that Period, when the labouring Poor are dismissed, and set idle. Hitherto, since the last War, those who were bred to the Business, and had Money and Credit to carry it on, have been struggling with the Trade, loth to give it up, in Hopes of its growing better, till many have lost their Stocks in Trade, and turned insolvent; others, who have stood their Ground in some Measure, are greatly dispirited, and have restricted their Manufacture. For Instance; the Company that I am connected with, had, some Years ago, Two Hundred Weavers Looms employed in the Winter Time (which you know is the proper Season to make Cloth for the Summer's Bleaching) and this Winter they have hardly Thirty Looms at Work. What Scenes of Distress have followed upon this Alteration! Multitudes of poor Weavers, with starving Families, begging for Employment, and cannot get it. In such desperate Circumstances, is it any Wonder that there be many ready for desperate Measures, upon the slightest Pretences? And such were the late Mobs about this Place and *Dundee*, &c. which were occasioned not so much by Scarcity of Victual in the Country, as by many of the industrious Poor being set

idle, and rendered incapable to purchase the Necessaries of Life.

In order to give you a general View of the Decrease of the Linen Manufacture about this Place, there was stamped at the *Perth* Stamp Office, in the Year preceding 1st November 1766, Linen Cloth to the Value of — £. 48,266 4 1  
In the Year preceding 1st November last, there was only stamped to the Value of — } 23,809 18 9

Decrease £. 24,456 5 4

By this State you see there is a Decrease of more than the Half of the Value.

If you was to have the Particulars of the Linen Trade from every Part of the Country where it has been carried on, I am sure Nothing but the like Scenes of Distress would be presented to you; and, I dare say, the Case will be the same in *England* and *Ireland*: So that it is Time that the Cry of such general Distress should reach the Throne. Is it not hard that our Market should be glutted with Foreign Linen, to the starving of our own Poor? Nothing can be of more Importance for calling the immediate Attention of the Legislature, and therefore, I hope, so soon as your Errand is known, and properly understood, you will meet with the Approbation and Concurrence of every one who regards the Welfare of the *British* Empire: And to hear of this being the Case, will be Relief to the drooping Spirits of many, as well as to,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,  
*William Sandeman.*

N° 2.

N<sup>o</sup> 2.

Extract of a Letter from *Richard Neilson. Dundee, 22d January 1773.*

Dear Sir,  
I Do not at present reflect on any Thing new, to notice about the State of our Trade, only it is certainly just now at a low Ebb. Many, very many, of the Poor in this Place and Country, who formerly subsisted by their Industry, cannot now find Employment; and those who are employed, from the Reduction of the Wages in every Stage of the Manufacture, cannot, by the hardest Labour, obtain

Bread: And I am convinced this has introduced a State of Despair among the People, that has occasioned the late desperate and tumultuous Riots we have had here. Meal, and other Necessaries of Life, are no dearer, nor no scarcer, than they have been for some Time; but, I do believe, the Poor cannot, from their Labour, find Money to obtain them as formerly.

N<sup>o</sup> 3.

Extract of a Letter from *Richard Neilson. Dundee, 9th February 1773.*

Dear Sir,  
I Wrote you, before you left *Edinburgh*, of the distracted State of this Country, from the Riots that had broke out. By the Aid of a strong Detachment of the Military, those Tumults are got kept under; but the Spirit seems yet so strong among the People, that I wish they may not again burst out. From what has already happened, our Attention has been called to enquire into the Condition of the Poor; and you cannot imagine the Scenes of Distress that daily appear, not so much among the begging Poor, as among that Class who were for-

merly employed in the Manufacture. The Quantity of Linens made are decreasing sensibly. It is certain that a great Number of the Weavers are thrown idle, and very destitute; and those that are still employed cannot, from the Reduction of Wages, gain Subsistence. I dare say this is the principal Cause of the Riots, and the only one that can be assigned; for Meal is cheaper than it was before last Harvest, and the Quantity in the Market sufficient for the Demand. It is observable that these Tumults prevail only in this and the neighbouring Linen Counties of *Perth* and *Fife*.

N<sup>o</sup> 4.

*Bramgreave, April 20th 1773.*

Sir,  
YOUR esteemed Letter did not come to Hand till *Thursday* the 15th Instant; and as the Committee are to meet the 22d, have not Time to send to many Linen Manufacturers in our Parts. I have this Day called together the Persons whose Names are underwritten; who are concerned in that Business, and each have now declared to me their Trade has been for some Years greatly upon the Decay. We are at this Time much distressed for Want of Trade, which is chiefly owing to our being outdone by the Foreign Linens; great Numbers of our Weavers and Spinners, formerly employed, have now not half Work, and many now idle; and that without the Parliament takes it into Consideration, and

lays a higher Duty on Foreign Linens, our Linen Manufactory must sink, and will be lost. I hope you will meet with many able Friends to assist you in your very laudable and needful Undertaking; and am, wishing you all desirable Success,

Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,

<i>A. Crane.</i>	<i>John Crane.</i>
<i>Tho<sup>r</sup> Burden.</i>	<i>Tho<sup>r</sup> Ellins.</i>
<i>Jo<sup>r</sup> Ward.</i>	<i>W<sup>m</sup> Brown.</i>
<i>Tho<sup>r</sup> Collett.</i>	<i>Benj<sup>n</sup> Humphrys.</i>
<i>R. Duff.</i>	<i>Joshua Pearl.</i>
<i>T. Hodge.</i>	<i>George Wall.</i>
<i>Jo<sup>r</sup> Tolley.</i>	<i>James Osburne.</i>
<i>W. Field.</i>	

## N° 5 (A).

Extract of a Letter from *James Backhouse. Darlington, 6th 3d Mo. 1773:*

Respected Friend,  
**W**h. hope both Parliament and Treasury will be convinced, nothing is desired but for the true Advantage of the Public. The Case now stands with us, that some have already stop'd, and others turned off the greatest Part of their Work People. If something be not done this Session of Parliament, in all Probability the greatest Part of our Manufactory will be at a Stand before the next Meeting. Many of our Manufacturers here import their Flax, by which the Poor have the full Benefit from the rough Materials, till the Cloth be fit for Use.

## N° 5 (B).

*Darlington, 9th 4th Mo. 1773.*

Esteemed Friends,  
**I** Duly received your Favour of the 5th, also several Letters from our Two worthy Members, advising the Proceedings. I am engaged in a Reference, that I cannot attend you now; but expect *John Clement* will set forward soon as he can, but I fear it will not be till the Middle of next Week at first; he can inform the Committee of the present distressed Situation of our Manufactory, but least he shall not be in Time (and if it will give any Light therein) I can safely say our Manufacturers here have, for a long Time by past, made Huckaback Table Linen, to the Amount of betwixt Twelve and Fifteen thousand Pounds a Year, for which we had a pretty regular Sale until within a few Years by past; but the Sales have lessened gradually the Three last Years, so that at present here is Goods on Hand to the full Value of One of the best Year's Make, though many have discharged a great Number of their Weavers, as the Demand declined, and some their all, for Want of Sales to help them to carry on their Trade as usual.

I shall take the Liberty to mention, that at our House we were so affected with the Distress of the poor Weavers being turned out of Work, and could get nothing to do to subsist their Families on, that we did what we could to keep ours, being upwards of 60 Weavers, at Work the last Winter; but having no Encouragement for Sales this Spring, we have now reduced them to below Thirty; and if we have not some Relief soon, shall be obliged to turn off a great Part of the rest before next Winter. We have not received an Order for any of the Cloth we have made for the last Eight Months; and we have a large Quantity by us, bleached in 1771 and 2. I think it is very evident, the Occasion is chiefly owing to the increased Importation of Foreign Table Linen—for we find, as that increased, ours decreased; if the Merchants could not dispose of the Foreign Linen, they would not have increased the Importation; which to me is a sufficient Proof, that that is the principal Occasion of our present distressed Situation.

I am, with due Respects, your real Friend,  
*James Backhouse*

## N° 6.

Extract of a Letter from *John Flounders. Cratborne, 18th April 1773:*

Respected Friend,  
**I** Have yours of 5th and 8th of April: It will not be in my Power to attend the Committee, nor any from this Part; the declining State of Linen Trade, and the Weavers going to other Work, may be easily proved, when an Opportunity offers; a Petition from *Pickering, Kirby Moorside, and Helmsley*, will soon make its Appearance, as also one (I believe) from *Knaifbrough*.

N<sup>o</sup> 7.

Perth, 11th February 1773.

Sirs,  
Y<sup>OUR</sup> Favours of the 19th last Month advised you had sold N<sup>o</sup> 7 and 8 of my White Linens at 7½ and 7½; sure there must be a Mistake, as these Goods cost me more, including Charges, &c. and I can positively declare, that at the Buying I greatly pitied the Sellers, as they were much hurt with the Prices then giving.

Our Manufacturers, ever since June last, have not Bread for their Work, and if there is no Mistake in the Sales of the above Two Bales, yea, I may add the other sold by you, prior to them, I will certainly stop buying, and silently lament the approaching Ruin of our Country. I am, with Regard, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,  
James Duncan.

N<sup>o</sup> 8.

INVOICE of Samples of Foreign Linens bought by *John Ellis*, Esquire, from Messrs. *Nash, Edowes, and Petre*, in 1761, for the Linen Board of Ireland.

Entered at the  
Custom House  
in the follow-  
ing Names.

N <sup>o</sup> 1	Piece Ruffia Drab, 30 ¼ Archeens,	at 22s. 6d. per 28 Arch'	or 22 ½ Yards, at 13d. per Yd.	} Drilling.
2	1 D <sup>o</sup> I T Sort 30	at 24s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 22 ½ Yds. at 13 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
3	1 D <sup>o</sup> Small Bear 28 ½	at 24s. 6d.	or 21 ½ Yds. at 14d. D <sup>o</sup>	
4	1 Piece Narrow Hambrough	at 30s. per Piece	or 32 D <sup>o</sup> at 11 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Narrow Germany.
5	1 D <sup>o</sup> Broad D <sup>o</sup>	at 31s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 11 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
6	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ Loom Dowls	at 34s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 12 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
7	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ D <sup>o</sup>	at 77s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 64 Yds. at 14 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
8	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ Slickt Dowls	at 30s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 11 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
9	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ D <sup>o</sup>	at 81s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 64 Yds. at 15 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
10	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ Waf'd Dowls	at 31s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 11 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
11	1 D <sup>o</sup> ¼ Demy D <sup>o</sup>	at 40s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 15 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
12	1 D <sup>o</sup> Narrow Britannia	at 8s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 6 ½ Yds. at 16d. D <sup>o</sup>	
13	1 D <sup>o</sup> Broad D <sup>o</sup>	at 12s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 7 Yds. at 21 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
14	1 D <sup>o</sup> Single Silefia or Platilla	at 7s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 8 ½ Yds. at 10d. D <sup>o</sup>	
15	1 D <sup>o</sup> Double D <sup>o</sup> or Platilla	at 19s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 17 Yds. at 13 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
16	1 D <sup>o</sup> Brown Quadruple D <sup>o</sup> Platilla	at 38s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 35 Yds. at 13 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
17	1 D <sup>o</sup> White D <sup>o</sup> or Platilla	at 41s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 35 Yds. at 14d. D <sup>o</sup>	
18	1 D <sup>o</sup> Clouting Diaper near Ell wide	at 12s. 6d. D <sup>o</sup>	or 7 Yds. at 21 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Silefia Napkin- ing.
19	1 D <sup>o</sup> Hambro' Whited Lawn	at 45s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 16 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
20	1 D <sup>o</sup> Holland Whited Lawn	at 82s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 32 Yds. at 2s. 6 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Silefia Lawns.
22	1 D <sup>o</sup> Brown Ravenduck, I T	at 32s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 37 ½ Yds. at 10 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
23	1 D <sup>o</sup> Brown Ruffia Sheeting	at 47s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 37 ½ Yds. at 15d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Ruffia Linen.
24	1 D <sup>o</sup> Flaxen Sprig or Ozenbrig, 73 Ells	at 11 ½ d. per Ell	or 92 Yds. at 9 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
31	1 D <sup>o</sup> Ticklinburg, 101 Ells	at 10 ½ d. per Ell	or 126 Yds. at 8 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Narrow Germany.
32	1 D <sup>o</sup> Yard-wide Brown Heffen	at 23s. 6d. per Piece	or 36 Yds. at 7 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
33	1 D <sup>o</sup> Ell-wide D <sup>o</sup>	at 22s. D <sup>o</sup>	or 36 Yds. at 7 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Heffen Canvas.
34	1 D <sup>o</sup> Brown Roll, 89 Auns, 43 Ells	at 4 ½ d. per Ell	or 54 Yds at 3 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	
35	1 D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> 70 Ells	at 6d. per D <sup>o</sup>	or 43 Yds. at 4 ½ d. D <sup>o</sup>	} Spruce Canvas.
	34 ½ Ells			
	Heffen Wrapper, 8 Ells	at 9d. per Ell.		

## No. 9.

An ACCOUNT of the Value of Linen Cloth and Yarn exported out of *Ireland* in the following Years.

Years ending at <i>Christmas</i> .	Total Value of Linen.	Total Value of Yarn.
1701	14,112 — —	39,106 10 4
1702	16,259 15 —	42,866 9 2
1703	18,173 3 9	37,449 14 2
1704	29,432 6 10½	40,37 3 4
1705	31,965 — —	39,044 14 2
1706	58,395 14 7	34,934 3 6
1707	80,543 10 10	51,914 1 3
Years ending 25th <i>March</i> .		
1708	15,540 4 7	12,472 10 9
1709	114,043 12 8	53,859 16 —
1710	105,535 17 6	47,853 12 —
1711	78,425 18 9	43,928 10 —
1712	86,007 13 5½	47,496 15 —
1713	113,738 10 11½	70,815 17 —
1714	155,001 12 8½	158,326 7 11½
1715	107,656 — 6	146,283 — 2½
1716	109,405 5 9	102,847 1 9
1717	132,018 10 5	189,555 12 6
1718	121,732 17 —½	147,527 12 6
1719	127,798 5 2½	158,239 19 9
1720	121,899 4 —	94,334 1 —
1721	126,035 1 6	88,178 12 —
1722	170,995 4 —	88,524 4 —
1723	218,927 5 —	94,037 7 —
1724	193,958 10 6	87,564 3 —
1725	193,249 7 6	82,207 19 —
1726	218,419 15 —	105,042 11 —
1727	238,444. 9 9	103,716 11 —
1728	234,638 4 9	62,975 5 6
1729	196,395 18 6	65,206 13 5
1730	206,810 3 6	55,485 15 9
1731	220,256 15 7	84,194 11 1½
1732	237,034 9 4½	92,061 16 —
1733	298,567 5 —	82,372 6 7
1734	340,734 18 1½	108,733 9 —
1735	426,339 18 9	94,405 10 —
1736	406,759 9 4½	88,463 3 —
1737	409,252 7 8	88,173 11 —
1738	345,049 12 —	95,674 13 —
1739	397,487 15 —	109,202 6 —
1740	441,851 8 8	111,256 18 —
1741	480,516 2 —	129,941 4 —
1742	471,611 4 —	97,984 3 6
1743	403,869 8 —	85,016 — —
1744	459,366 18 —	108,066 1 —
1745	537,897 4 6	132,398 15 —
1746	512,750 — 6	166,451 10 —
1747	722,541 6 —	173,464 — —
1748	543,291 19 4½	116,508 — —
1749	594,021 3 9	130,165 — —
1750	653,360 3 4	134,238 5 —
1751	751,993 11 10½	142,459 — —
1752	621,600 3 6	140,442 5 —
1753	694,119 3 —	139,428 5 —
1754	806,060 4 —	135,667 — —
1755	891,982 4 8	167,692 17 —
1756	796,288 11 4	161,982 15 —
1757	1,033,913 18 8	186,473 5 —
1758	998,837 3 —	191,970 15 —
1759	939,562 1 4	165,426 — —
1760	891,697 1 8	186,254 5 —
1761	803,258 15 4	238,198 5 —
1762	1,037,311 14 8	215,702 15 —
1763	1,067,540 7 —	206,808 7 —
1764	1,006,738 15 8	190,292 15 —
1765	957,013 13 4	156,762 — —
1766	1,192,806 16 4	210,109 10 —
1767	1,343,211 7 —	181,648 10 —
1768	1,232,667 18 8	195,542 15 —
1769	1,186,047 — —	222,223 — —
1770	1,370,716 18 8	200,502 15 —
1771	1,691,787 4 —	204,996 15 —

N<sup>o</sup> 10.

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of Linens sent to Market by each County in *Ireland* respectively, in 1770; as stated in the Report made by *Robert Stephenson*, Esquire, in 1771, on a general Inspection by Order of the House of Commons and the Trustees of the Linen Manufacture of *Ireland*.

<i>Galway</i>	—	—	£. 40,000	—	—
<i>Roscommon</i>	—	—	20,000	—	—
<i>Mayo</i>	—	—	10,000	—	—
<i>Sligo</i>	—	—	27,000	—	—
<i>Leitrim</i>	—	—	5,000	—	—
<i>Monaghan</i>	—	—	60,000	—	—
<i>Cavan</i>	—	—	50,000	—	—
<i>Fermanagh</i>	—	—	15,000	—	—
<i>Donagall</i>	—	—	80,000	—	—
<i>Derry</i>	—	—	260,000	—	—
<i>Antrim</i>	—	—	400,000	—	—
<i>Down</i>	—	—	400,000	—	—
<i>Armagh</i>	—	—	280,000	—	—
<i>Tyrone</i>	—	—	100,000	—	—
<i>Louth</i>	—	—	100,000	—	—
<i>Meath</i>	—	—	40,000	—	—
<i>Westmeath</i>	—	—	40,000	—	—
<i>Longford</i>	—	—	20,000	—	—
<i>Kings County</i>	—	—	60,000	—	—
<i>Queens County</i>	—	—	300	—	—
<i>Kilkenny and Waterford</i>	—	—	6,000	—	—
<i>Carlow</i>	—	—	500	—	—
<i>Wexford</i>	—	—	300	—	—
<i>Wicklow</i>	—	—	200	—	—
<i>Kildare</i>	—	—	20,000	—	—
<i>Dublin City and County</i>	—	—	100,000	—	—
<i>Clare</i>	—	—	1,000	—	—
<i>Limerick</i>	—	—	1,000	—	—
<i>Tipperary</i>	—	—	100	—	—
<i>Cork</i>	—	—	10,000	—	—
<i>Kerry</i>	—	—	400	—	—

			£. 2,146,800	—	—	Total Value sold in Market.
From the above Value subtract			1,691,787	4	—	which appears to have been exported before 25 <sup>th</sup> March 1771.
This Remainder			455,012	16	—	was necessary for Home Consumption.
And also the further Quantity, Value			378,320	10	8	was necessary for Home Consumption, and never exposed to Sale in Market.
Total Value			£. 833,333	6	8	necessary to supply the Home Consumption, estimating the Inhabitants at Two Millions and a Half, and their Consumption at Six Shillings and Eight Pence for each Person, which is presumed to be the best Calculation that can be made for the Kingdom.

N<sup>o</sup> 11.

Paragraph of a Letter from *And. Armstrong* and Co. dated *Dublin*, 26<sup>th</sup> *April* 1773.

FROM the Quantity of our Goods unfold, which is at least double what are in your Hands, you may judge our Situation, at this Season of the Year, just at the Eve of the new Bleach; we shall endeavour to struggle on a few Months longer, in Hopes of some favourable Turn; but if that does not come to pass, we know of no Remedy but to quit our Manufacture, and let our People idle; surely if your Parliament can

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made sensible of the Distresses of the Country, and its impending Ruin, they will do something for its Relief; this is our last and only Hope.

Paragraph of a Letter from *Peter Smith*, dated *Dublin*, *April* 29<sup>th</sup> 1773.

The least Alteration in the Demand, for the better, will raise the Price of the Stock on Hand, for not only the *June* Bleach is decreased full 5-8ths of the usual Quantity, but the *September* Bleach (which ought

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## 118 1773. REPORT *relative to the* LINEN TRADE

to be now buying) will not be a 4th so much as usual; as for *December*, if something is not done by Parliament this Session, farewell to the Linen Trade of *Ireland*, for there will not be a Weaver left that will not emigrate.

Paragraph of a Letter from *Joseph Fletcher* and Co. dated *Dublin*, 16th *April* 1773.

We hope the Trustees have forwarded the Account you desired, of the Emigration of the People, and we are endeavouring to collect some Information respecting the Number of Looms standing idle; we have had a Return from *Belfast*, where we find, from 440 that usually were employed, there are not more now than 160; we least of all expected such a Change in this Quarter; judge what it must be in the Counties of *Down* and *Armagh*; in short, it is impossible to picture to you the general Distress that prevails all over the North Part of this Country; the Weavers are starving for want of Work, and the Bleach Yards are almost without Covering, and many reputable Greens are quite idle.

Paragraph of a Letter from *Joseph Fletcher* and Co. dated *Dublin* 5 *May* 1773.

We have before us your Favour of the 28th *ultimo*;

The Situation of our Linen Trade on your Side is alarming; what will become of us, we cannot say. Our new Bleach will shortly be at Market, without the least Prospect of any Demand for it; the Consequence will be a total Stagnation to the Manufacture in the North, the Remainder of the Season.

Paragraph of a Letter from *Archibald Shaw*, dated *Liverpool*, the 9th *April* 1773.

Inclosed, you now have Invoice of 19 Boxes Linen P F N<sup>o</sup> 65 a 83; and there is on Board with them, in the *Success*, *Hugh Henderson*, from *Belfast*, Seven Boxes more, and Two Packages Browns, which I wish safe to Hand, and hope you will get them off Hand before this Season's Buying arrives; which I assure you is all much cheaper than I ever remember, but in the mean Time are so low, that the Manufacturers are so great Sufferers; that Numbers are quitting the Business, and going to *America*: It would appear altogether incredible, were I to mention the Number that has lately sailed from this Country; and if the Linen Trade does not get a favourable Turn soon, this Country will be entirely ruined.



An ACCOUNT of the Total Quantities of Foreign Linens imported into England, from Christmas 1751 to Christmas 1771, converted into British Yards, with the Amount of the Duties paid thereon; distinguishing the Quantities and Duties of each Year.

	From Christmas 1751 to Christmas 1753.			1753.			1754.			1755.			1756.		
	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Barbers Aprons, or Checked	10,315	350 1 3		29,975	1,017 15		9,390	318 17 4		2,740	84 16 6		10,690	362 14 11	
Bedcases	11,055	847 15		32,135	233 2 9		13,036	98 16		7,642	58 7 2		6,295	48 1 4	
Cambricks	37,745	8,478 10		401,900	9,014 4		294,271	6,599 4 5		694,102	15,955 14 2		507,812	11,388 5	
Heffans	1,796,194	10,644 18 8		1,974,467	9,354 18 10		1,935,601	8,171 10 10		2,140,775	10,857 13 4		2,511,431	12,737 11 7	
Nonamdy										60	1 12				
Spence or Packing	2,626,303	7,611 12 2		3,966,683	14,369 16 6		3,765,890	13,647 16 7		4,357,495	15,786 1 8		3,071,081	11,125 16 9	
Very				50	1 5 7										
Neapling, Sicilia	76,642	1,077 15 8		82,617	1,159 13 6		87,430	1,224 9 8		58,627	849 11 3		107,635	1,559 14 8	
Tabling, Sicilia	38,192	1,660 6 6		25,948	1,138 1 2		29,388	1,277 11 7		15,102	656 10 6		35,994	1,564 15 3	
Neapling, Holland	30	1 18 2		37	2 16 3		220	16 14 9					55	3 10 3	
Tabling, Holland							63	13 14 10					68	12 6 9	
Neapling, Sicilia	87,801	1,234 14 2		96,073	1,351 6		111,353	1,565 18		79,051	1,145 10 6		110,143	1,726 9 11	
Tabling, Sicilia	31,609	2,812 3 1		30,726	1,313 8 6		30,009	1,087 3		25,799	934 12 7		31,753	1,150 6 7	
Neapling, Holland	101	2 7		255	1 5 5					239	16 1 9		141	3 17 1	
Tabling, Holland	15	1 9 4		13	1 5 8										
Ruffia under Ell	304,855	1,125 18 8		331,453	1,200 15 4		43,005	155 5 11		54,246	196 4 4		83,146	301 4 4	
East Country Broad	316	4 12 11		325	4 5 2										
Narrow															
Germany Broad	362,567	2,101 15		126,113	731 3		52,621	315 3		113,855	659 18 11		62,845	393 2 10	
Narrow	301,780	4,373 2		405,985	5,838 4		450,871	6,233 11 3		1,304,711	2,290 5 3		735,517	10,568 7 3	
Hinderlands, Brown and White	17,368,580	100,672 2		18,962,150	110,027 18 5		19,212,075	111,360 13 2		17,428,321	101,021 10 2		18,149,332	105,200 17 3	
Holland and Flanders	44,900	176 2 10		35,677	137 17 4		28,821	111 9 1		122,761	474 7 2		101,340	309 12 1	
Holland Duck	405,981	14,794 13 1		393,168	14,241 5 8		359,117	11,993 11 9		301,218	10,078 7 1		271,147	10,909 14 4	
Ruffia Drilling	50,026	548 14 11		63,421	695 8 10		25,112	278 14 8		91,096	1,099 5 6		53,711	589 10 3	
Duck	785,016	2,275 2 7		1,532,671	4,441 19 7		1,141,017	3,306 17 9		1,074,256	3,112 8 1		1,091,993	2,859 16 1	
Lawns, Sicilia	405,696	5,511 8 2		359,026	3,430 10 9		199,046	2,05 13 9		306,065	3,327 16 1		208,500	2,105 16 11	
Mulcovia Narrow	1,700,311	9,655 13 3		3,254,16	3,430 17 4		515,968	7,009 11 5		302,928	4,115 7 3		518,856	7,188 10 4	
Ozenbrigs	50,440	316 6 5		468,933	2,184 13 7		1,659,917	11,355 8 7		3,386,845	13,687 12 13		3,01,631	11,938 10 1	
Portugal Linen	75	18 4		83,993	580 5 5		6,867	44 2 8		5,002	174 11		94,630	638 4 3	
Turkey Linen	51	13 7		316	3 13 4		821	19 1							
Sheets old	43,386	174 5 7		18,930	51 12 11		29,712	85 2 3		87	1 6 2		37	43 6	
Sheets new	541,231	2,430 18 4		3,966,618	6,444 12 6		538,165	6,121 12 11		24,664	7,740 16 2		15,600	6,959 2 11	
Ruffia Broad										105,756	536 5		815,660	21,555	
Diaper Ruffia Broad										102,398	199 9		204,455	270 9 2	
Sails Foreign-made	23,962	202 4 11		19,341	242 15 8		15,470	190 13 9		1,348					
Totals	87,856,123	182,930 2 11		35,372,907	212,473 2 5		30,871,973	195,087 5 8		31,947,447	194,876 10 8		31,759,341	200,872 9 10	

Totals

19

Foreign Linens imported, continued from Christmas 1756 to Christmas 1761.

	From Christmas 1756 to Christmas 1757.			1758.			1759.			1760.			1761.		
	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Barbers Aprons, or Checks	7,735	262 15 1	—	—	—	—	3,720	138 13 3	—	110	4 2	—	2,820	105 2	—
Borelapp	6,695	51 2	—	5,498	41 19 9	—	5,750	53 9 9	—	11,790	109 13 7	—	12,747	118 11 9	—
Canbricks	7,853	16,787 11 8	—	726,971	16,302 18 2	—	430,271	13,116 3 6	—	1,244 14 9	1,244 14 9	—	27,421	801 11 3	—
Heficas	24,306	12,327 14 8	—	2,078,116	10,539 17 6	—	1,358,911	8,477 9	—	1,532,080	9,557 17 10	—	1,011,712	6,317 16 3	—
Nonrardy	—	—	—	1,375	36 13 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spence or Packing	2,705	251 4	—	3,809	137 5	—	4,815,977	21,460 7 3	—	6,441,361	28,703 4 1	—	4,888,206	18,663 16 3	—
Napkinning, Silefia	68,541	993 4 6	—	40,465	13,799 19 9	—	36,547	651 8 6	—	7,375	131 9 1	—	29,807	531 5 9	—
Tabling, Silefia	22,670	985 10 7	—	586	7 3	—	21,059	1,126 1 9	—	21,059	1,126 1 9	—	34,024	1,819 7 3	—
Napkinning, Holland	419	26 14 5	—	46,536	2,023 1 1	—	43,478	2,324 17 11	—	140	11 7 7	—	—	—	—
Tabling, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Napkinning, Silefia	81,937	1,187 6 11	—	147,456	2,136 15 7	—	107,486	1,915 17 3	—	30	8 5	—	68	15 15 9	—
Tabling, Silefia	20,962	759 8	—	32,136	1,164 4 1	—	25,594	1,136 9 6	—	106,130	1,891 13 10	—	208,821	3,722 1 9	—
Napkinning, Holland	3	1 7	—	280	7 13	—	—	—	—	20,607	918 5 5	—	36,900	1,644 1 10	—
Tabling, Holland	10	—	—	191	23 14 1	—	6	1 12 1	—	—	—	—	191	6 13	—
Rudra under ½ Ell	179,155	649 8	—	44,145	159 18 7	—	317,197	1,413 9 1	—	150,156	669 2 1	—	243,179	1,083 12 6	—
Germany Broad	6,165	37 9	—	5,550	34 3 5	—	11,632	82 18 9	—	8,537	60 17 5	—	2,478	17 13 5	—
Narrow	229,003	3318 9	—	214,321	3,104 2 7	—	242,983	4,331 4	—	206,104	3,673 12 3	—	253,396	4,516 12 3	—
Hinderlands, Brown and White	16,862,885	97,743 16 9	—	18,949,472	109,838 10 2	—	13,110,695	93,475 12 3	—	14,507,155	103,431 19 8	—	15,905,148	113,399 5 10	—
Holland and Flanders	8,308	32 2 1	—	24,910	96 5 1	—	66,365	286 18 5	—	18,113	86 1 11	—	48,431	249 1 4	—
Holland Dack	10,548	5 4	—	304,458	11,094 19 8	—	287,448	13,349 12	—	191,930	8,913 11	—	184,052	8,547 14 1	—
Rudra Drilling	50,796	557 4 1	—	45,042	57 1 4	—	56,935	708 1 4	—	93,930	624 1 8	—	44,112	557 8 6	—
— Duck	1,055,547	2,914 5 5	—	676,072	1,959 8	—	993,860	3,542 12 8	—	433,591	3,329 6 7	—	1,671,032	5,600 10 11	—
Lawns, Silefia	210,455	2,226 7 4	—	413,042	4,359 10 3	—	375,373	4,595 12 8	—	606,468	5,309 10 8	—	461,391	5,674 9	—
Mulcovia Narrow	326,744	4,438 18	—	228,064	3,098 6 3	—	407,120	6,803 1 10	—	606,468	10,123 5	—	597,460	9,990 1 6	—
Neckcloths, Silefia	1,999,908	7,728 3 4	—	833,332	3,220 4 3	—	556,117	2,500 14 4	—	1,108,467	5,268 14 2	—	3,023,037	17,220 17 4	—
Ozenbrigs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal Linen	35,211	244 18 6	—	16,532	112 18	—	9,822	84 5 10	—	31,232	267 2 9	—	14,310	122 9 3	—
Turkey Linen	—	—	—	126	1 9	—	22	—	—	71	1 4	—	—	—	—
Shirts old	341	5 2	—	42	—	—	150	2 13 10	—	61	1 2	—	191	3 8 7	—
Rudra Broad	98,566	7,391 6 1	—	4,390	12 5 8	—	31,200	108 16 10	—	17,010	59 6 9	—	24	—	—
Diaper Rudra Broad	6,401	366 5 3	—	1,005,141	7,600 18 2	—	1,551,541	14,795 18 10	—	1,045,870	9,195 4 5	—	1,462,047	12,989 15 6	—
Sails Foreign made	31,692	391 12 5	—	96,899	52 13	—	180,868	1,208 18 11	—	86,843	580 9	—	8,748	573 9	—
Totals	28,426,075	181,775 18 11	—	29,770,104	193,122 15 11	—	25,057,533	18,997 1 9	—	27,988,972	195,712 8 8	—	30,428,424	215,021 14 3	—

Foreign Linens imported, continued from Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1766.

	From Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1762.			1762.			1764.			1765.			1766.		
	Quantities.	Duties.		Quantities.	Duties.		Quantities.	Duties.		Quantities.	Duties.		Quantities.	Duties.	
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Barbers' Aprons, or Checks	—	—	—	980	36 9 1	—	721	31 6 6	—	13,020	316 4 6	—	9,410	319 7	—
Bowlaps	12,747	118 11 10	—	6,266	58 5 11	—	5,433	50 11	—	12,960	114 19 7	—	23,093	214 17 8	—
Cambricks.	248,081	725 3 2	—	250,396	731 19	—	238,501	696 18 2	—	175,112	520 12 8	—	240,048	701 13 5	—
Chemises	1,439,931	8,977 8	—	2,153,113	13,455 5 11	—	2,486,077	15,471 19 7	—	2,091,918	13,050 9	—	1,878,612	11,719 14 9	—
Cloves	5,820	166 16 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cravats	2,895,960	12,904 12 4	—	4,149,385	18,489 19 6	—	4,101,938	18,278 11	—	2,744,016	12,227 10 11	—	4,184,610	18,998 10 1	—
Draps	—	—	—	—	—	—	440	10 10 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Draps	66,752	1,189 16 2	—	4,5219	805 19 11	—	74,306	1,324 9	—	88,669	1,580 9 3	—	106,669	1,908 6	—
Draps	797,782	1,592 10 7	—	28,823	1,113 9 4	—	33,177	1,774 1 5	—	38,739	2,071 9 9	—	41,923	2,222 14 12	—
Draps	—	—	—	99	8 11	—	55	4 9 4	—	68	5 10 6	—	105	8 10 8	—
Draps	81	18 10 2	—	45	12	—	124	33 3 1	—	6	1 7 10	—	84	19 10	—
Draps	69,191	1,233 5 7	—	60,285	1,074	—	81,056	1,444	—	96,485	1,612 17 6	—	151,742	2,709 13 11	—
Draps	31,653	1,410 9 7	—	18,922	843 3 7	—	22,932	1,021 17 4	—	27,357	1,209 11	—	32,022	1,471 9 8	—
Draps	3	—	—	12	—	—	5,136	178 17 10	—	339	11 15 8	—	281	9 15 9	—
Draps	7	14 7	—	71	8 10 10	—	27	3 4 11	—	12	1 9 4	—	103	10 15 3	—
Draps	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	288	10	—	—	—	—
Draps	8,421	37 10 6	—	8,421	37 10 6	—	2,600	64 3 4	—	111,347	496 3 5	—	138,665	617 8	—
Draps	124,100	553	—	254,898	1,135 16 11	—	147,453	697 1 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Draps	—	—	—	—	—	—	455	8 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Draps	162,432	2,895 4 11	—	50,376	359 3 4	—	2,521	17 19 6	—	8,917	63 11 1	—	2,172	15 9 9	—
Draps	—	—	—	50,540	1,168 6 4	—	125,342	2,234 2 10	—	105,020	1,871 14 5	—	105,591	1,828 12 4	—
Draps	—	—	—	—	—	—	125	6 8 6	—	13,771	51	—	67	4 4 1	—
Draps	10,874,675	77,533 8 5	—	18,533,793	96,472 3 9	—	19,934,047	99,245 17 9	—	12,980,468	92,547 2 9	—	13,594,081	96,922	—
Draps	25,498	500	—	17,320	316 12 1	—	7,481	114 8 5	—	16,675	317 12 2	—	3,803	98 18 11	—
Draps	5,077	242 15 6	—	49,162	234 5 4	—	12,417	57 11 11	—	19,507	302 15 7	—	75,271	357 15 11	—
Draps	163,723	7,604	—	199,837	9,280 15 9	—	200,330	9,302 5 4	—	183,947	8,542 16 7	—	143,781	6,677 13 5	—
Draps	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	608	28 5 5	—
Draps	—	—	—	2,156	142 2 9	—	1,741	117 2 1	—	1,687	121 10 5	—	2,842	192 3 2	—
Draps	35,862	453 3 3	—	36,557	387 7 10	—	45,555	575 12 9	—	55,407	664 4 10	—	31,032	404 15 7	—
Draps	87,400	1,457 2 9	—	55,840	832 19 5	—	170,808	2,854 5	—	108,886	1,819 5	—	51,136	854 10 5	—
Draps	96	19 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Foreign Linens imported, continued from Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1766.

	From Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1762.			1763.			1764.			1765.			1766.		
	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.	Quantities.		Duties.
	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.
Muscovia Narrow	217,297½	1,033	16 11	1,613,537½	7,669	7 7	3,124,505	14,851	4 8	3,338,638½	16,150	19 5	1,176,480	5,591	19 8
Do striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	12 3	14½	2	5 6	75	—	—
Oxenbrigs	14,315	122	9 1	30,748½	262	19 7	188½	1	14 2	20,002½	171	2 7	27,121½	233	— 11
Portugal Linen	—	—	—	27½	—	7 10	476½	6	15 10	238½	3	13 9	—	—	—
Do { Above 21½, under 31½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	601,568½	4,395	19 3	1,131,416½	8,066	13 8
Do { Above 31½, under 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,175,208½	11,800	19	1,175,208½	12,862	14 1
Do { Above 45 inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,103,451½	32	— 9	11,861½	211	8 4
Drilling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,971½	3,112	— 7	737,185	2,627	14 11
Duck	1,352,917½	4,822	19 3	1,123,922½	4,006	13 2	623,048½	2,221	1 8	872,973½	3,112	— 7	737,185	2,627	14 11
Do { Above 22½, under 31½	55,693½	681	19 10	107,115	1,311	13 6	510,409	6,253	13 6	576,638½	7,060	18 8	515,696½	6,314	19 —
Diaper, broad, above 22½, under 31½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,281	20	6 7	—	—	—
Do { Above 45 inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkey Linen	—	—	—	—	—	—	101½	—	1 16 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheets old	11,724	40	18 1	9,360	36	7 2	22,548	87	9 4	7,800	27	4 2	2,730	9	10 5
Do { Ruffia Broad	794,235	7,236	12 8	2,542,477½	23,160	7 —	1,986,185½	21,264	17 9	10,708	135	14 1	712½	9	6 5
Do { Diaper, Ruffia Broad	37,010	218	17 3	210,477	1,623	8 4	104,337	929	9 7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do { Sail, Foreign made	20,880	296	19 11	22,833	330	17 11	24,546½	412	7 2	44,820	541	7 7	59,870	398	19 10
Totals	18,827,853½	134,031	14 1	26,634,851	185,476	19 4	28,092,215½	201,711	3 7	25,497,795½	182,997	— 11	25,624,107½	184,657	1 2

Foreign Linens imported, continued from Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1771.

From Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1767.				1768.				1769.				1770.				1771.			
Quantities.		Duties.		Quantities.		Duties.		Quantities.		Duties.		Quantities.		Duties.		Quantities.		Duties.	
Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£. s. d.
Barbers Aprons or Checks	4460	146 5 6	2147475	14532 10 5	3 17 11	120	4 7 6	9760	321 19 1	6120	205 16 3								
Bortlays	18008½	158 4 7	53478	685 16 10	6 7 1	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Do dyed	157722½	461 — 8	214225	310 3 6	—	109801½	160 9 7	213073½	622 14 6	466423½	1362 7 10								
Cambricks	1679013½	11873 14 3	1584961½	125517 7 9	—	2506750	19816 5 10	2337101½	18475 12	2320217½	17408 10 11								
Do Heafens	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Do striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Do Normandy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Packing or Sauce	264989½	14016 7 3	2147475	14532 10 5	—	3029903½	16037 13	2784215	14726 15 7	338868½	17938 10 10								
Napkinning, Shells	83804	1475 18 5	53478	685 16 10	—	30359	1186 9 4	55396½	997 — 6	317658	1302 12 8								
Tableing, Shells	35199	1935 13 4	31999	1711 1 8	—	30359	1623 7 8	26499	1412 3 4	317658	1598 — 8								
Napkinning, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Tableing, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Napkinning, Shells	105211	1880 13 2	79341	1414 3 11	—	84004	1497 6 3	100429	35 11 8	84810½	1565 3 2								
Tableing, Shells	35537	1449 17 5	27927	1244 8 11	—	17023	758 11 2	106411	1790 1 5	23108	1352 10 3								
Napkinning, Holland	180	6 5 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	474 3 4	23108	1352 10 3								
Tableing, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Napkinning, Holland	24	2 10 2	33	3 17 7	—	—	—	8	16 9	78	2 14 4								
Ruffs, Narrows, under ½ Ell	386599	1598 15 8	233134	1039 6 2	—	276886	1233 16 6	8029	143 2 1	6425	114 10 3								
Do wide	265	2 13 4	—	2 18 6	—	44	8 10	288544½	1285 15 6	139650½	622 6 5								
East Country Narrow	64½	4 11 7	604½	43 1 8	—	13637½	98 13 1	3352½	23 17 11	2590	12 6 2								
Broad	83200	2314 19 7	59530	108 1 8	—	86286½	1538	—	179 5 11	9607½	267 6 5								
Under 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Above 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Above 45 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Do above 36 Inches	33½	2 2 11	25½	9 7 3	—	1781½	107 7 2	—	30 15	116½	3 4 8								
Do under 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Narrow	10395588½	74165 9 6	11490626½	81924 19 6	—	11691343½	87356 — 8	13586580	96568 2 1	145035948½	107222 3 5								
Do Striped	1923½	53 12 1	18195½	390 4 2	—	6025	118 10 11	8122½	144 13 1	13455	310 4 9								
Hinderlands, Brown and White	26707½	126 18 11	90155	426 11 4	—	45546½	216 7 5	13113½	204 18 6	69922½	332 6 8								
Holland and Flanders, under 1 ½ Ell	124444½	5779 12 1	108781½	5051 19 8	—	89195	4112 4 3	88632	4110 4	119003½	5496 14 8								
Do above 1 ½ Ell	2840	131 17 10	1455	77 12 6	—	900	48 — 3	431½	24 2 7	313½	125 7 4								
Do Striped	54864½	328 15 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	29 16	2515½	103 2 4								



An ACCOUNT of the Total Quantities of Foreign Linens exported from *England*, from *Christmas 1751* to *Christmas 1771*, converted into *British Yards*, with the Amount of the Duties drawn back; distinguishing the Quantities and Drawbacks of each Year.

	From <i>Christmas 1751</i> to <i>Christmas 1752.</i>			1753.			1754.			1755.			1756.		
	Quantities.	Drawbacks.	Yards.	Quantities.	Drawbacks.	Yards.	Quantities.	Drawbacks.	Yards.	Quantities.	Drawbacks.	Yards.	Quantities.	Drawbacks.	Yards.
Barbers Aprons, or Checks	9,362½	303 1 3	27,280	882 19 —	314 — 9	9,700	314 — 9	314 — 9	3,740	109 17 3	10,685	345 18 6	10,685	345 18 6	10,685
Canbricks	195,084½	381 1 8	211,092½	4,084 10 4	5,162 6 1	265,768½	5,162 6 1	5,162 6 1	409,418½	7,984 14 3	317,590	6,103 16 4	317,590	6,103 16 4	317,590
Canvas Heddens	145,720	639 6 11	92,113½	412 12 11	376 5 11	84,361½	376 5 11	376 5 11	76,583½	346 8 7	78,641½	355 5 6	78,641½	355 5 6	78,641½
Spruce	456,108½	1,471 6 7	553,893½	1,788 13 10	493,893½	1,471 6 7	493,893½	493,893½	1,471 6 7	1,406 17 —	517,320	1,669 6 11	517,320	1,669 6 11	517,320
Napkinings, Silefia	11,479	129 13 6	11,403	336 10 5	147 19 7	1,589	147 19 7	147 19 7	7,959	102 14 7	7,963	95 — 9	7,963	95 — 9	7,963
Tablets, Silefia	7,878	302 4 6	6,361	244 10 7	108 — —	5954	229 15 3	229 15 3	5,459	211 7 9	5,364	205 7 9	5,364	205 7 9	5,364
Tablets, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tablets, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Napkinings, Silefia	19,938	250 5 9	22,198	278 17 3	18,584	18,584	232 18 10	232 18 10	14,555	187 17 5	17,897	231 — 2	17,897	231 — 2	17,897
Tablets, Silefia	6,822	213 15 9	8,184	259 — 9	7,066	7,066	225 7 —	225 7 —	7,254	234 1 7	8,886	236 14 10	8,886	236 14 10	8,886
Napkinings, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruffia Narrow under Ell	25,205	78 10 —	46,590	135 3 5	23,432	23,432	72 7 —	72 7 —	13,715	44 5 1	9,900	31 18 11	9,900	31 18 11	9,900
East Country Narrow	97,836	485 2 3	28,002½	143 5 10	19,421½	19,421½	98 19 1	98 19 1	21,347½	110 4 4	35,580	183 14 —	35,580	183 14 —	35,580
Germany Broad	320,931½	3,085 3 8	307,682½	3,878 14 7	3,300 1 6	3,300 1 6	221,521½	221,521½	221,521½	2,863 8 —	271,475	3,524 2 —	271,475	3,524 2 —	271,475
Narrow	5,396,331½	27,421 15 7	5,640,893½	28,960 8 7	5,226,723½	5,226,723½	26,745 8 6	26,745 8 6	5,908,841½	30,507 13 7	6,443,141½	33,266 6 7	6,443,141½	33,266 6 7	6,443,141½
Hinderlands, Brown	81,328½	2,896 9 —	67,970	2,129 13 9	47,477½	47,477½	1,518 4 7	1,518 4 7	58,453	1,852 10 9	47,011½	1,820 9 2	47,011½	1,820 9 2	47,011½
Holland and Flanders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holland Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruffia Drilling	10,631½	27 4 9	13,368½	30 17 9	7,918½	7,918½	20 1 5	20 1 5	27,058½	69 17 1	27,382½	71 19 7	27,382½	71 19 7	27,382½
Mifcova Narrow	7,893½	283 2 6	16,1345	553 17 10	4,556½	4,556½	863 19 10	863 19 10	750	505 4 6	7,460	No Drawback	7,460	No Drawback	7,460
Lawn, Silefia	63,136	752 16 5	68,864	832 2 —	59,072	59,072	604 15 8	604 15 8	43,952	531 17 2	217,245	1,036 2 7	217,245	1,036 2 7	217,245
Ozabrigs	56,777½	314 13 6	65,982½	409 — 8	59,426½	59,426½	268 7 7	268 7 7	8,125	50 7 3	166,875	1,033 18 —	166,875	1,033 18 —	166,875
Sheets old	41,900	108 18 10	24,588	63 — 8	21,054½	21,054½	53 12 2	53 12 2	18,720	48 1 3	14,376	36 18 —	14,376	36 18 —	14,376
Ruffia Broad	54,886½	353 14 7	68,626½	534 10 9	96,538½	96,538½	82 9 5	82 9 5	105,985	680 11 10	152,961	977 — 7	152,961	977 — 7	152,961
Diaper Ruffia Broad	3,207	14 19 7	18,936	91 5 1	14,300	14,300	87 5 11	87 5 11	5,531	26 15 5	9,386	45 8 8	9,386	45 8 8	9,386
Totals	7,187,110½	44,143 13 —	7,448,672½	45,864 13 10	42,898 — 5	69,815,282½	42,898 — 5	42,898 — 5	75,545,694½	47,881 15 9	8,461,726	52,159 16 3	8,461,726	52,159 16 3	8,461,726

Foreign Linens exported, continued from Christmas 1756 to Christmas 1761.

	From Christmas 1756 to Christmas 1757.			1758.			1759.			1760.			1761.		
	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Barbers Aprons or Checks	7,735	250 10 2	—	—	—	—	900	3 2 9	No Drawback	2,130	76 1 2	—	1,240	51 6 2	—
Cambricks	398,840	7,718 3 9	—	413,834	8,062	10	324,003	9,800 17 6	No Drawback	9,938	No Drawback	—	264,753	No Drawback	—
Canvas	102,798	464	1	85,660	386 19 8	—	134,113	762 7	—	134,496	753 3	—	46,281	263 1 6	—
— Spruce	6,770,701	2,057 16 1	—	707,947	2,284 9 8	—	907,611	3,685 2 5	—	1,059,273	4,300 18 2	—	592,955	2,407 10	—
— Napkin, Silefia	10,336	133 8 4	—	12,761	164 14 3	—	18,941	307 12 5	—	18,649	202 17 6	—	12,265	199 3 11	—
— Table, Silefia	5,444	210 16 2	—	5,369	207 18	—	9,396	482 3 3	—	14,473	705 3 3	—	7,330	337 2 9	—
— Napkin, Holland	—	—	—	12	—	13 4	—	—	—	140	10 4 3	—	72	5 5 1	—
— Table, Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	6 5 1	—	—	—	—
— Napkin, Silefia	23,512	303 9 8	—	24,159	311 16 8	—	44,656	725 5 1	—	31,265	506 16	—	27,448	445 15 8	—
— Table, Silefia	7,972	257 5	—	10,304	332 10	—	14,210	576 19 2	—	17,646	716 9 5	—	12,837	321 4 3	—
— Napkin, Holland	—	—	—	378	8 19 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ruffia, Narrow, under ½ Ell	12,128	39 2 8	—	15,104	48 14 9	—	15,141	73 13 4	—	20,965	121 13 4	—	11,963	48 11 5	—
East Country Narrow	13,868	71 5 11	—	15,924	82 11 5	—	24,186	157 2 5	—	3,537	5 9 3	—	—	—	—
Germany Broad	234,981	3,033 3 7	—	201,161	2,596 11	—	185,845	3,035 15 10	—	177,467	2,882 4 10	—	111,401	1,809 5 3	—
— Narrow	6,392,317	33,003 17 9	—	5,924,283	30,587 6	—	7,879,395	51,187 12 3	—	7,924,598	51,481 5 6	—	5,207,804	33,831 18 8	—
— Hindlands, Brown	1,453	5 1	—	1,982	6 16 6	—	5,370	25 8 11	—	75	—	—	158	—	—
— Holland and Flanders	4,040	1,705 11 11	—	42,547	1,348 8	—	37,521	1,577 13 3	—	64,444	2,674 2 1	—	41,894	1,746 10 4	—
— Hollands Duck	6,086	No Drawback	—	680	No Drawback	—	1,460	No Drawback	—	1,400	No Drawback	—	—	—	—
— Ruffia Drilling	3,821	84 14 7	—	54,838	141 11 4	—	77,111	252 8 6	—	69,777	226 13 1	—	49,632	161 4 5	—
— Duck	3,800	No Drawback	—	—	—	—	37,602	No Drawback	—	38	No Drawback	—	5,591	No Drawback	—
— Mulcovia Narrow	138,162	441 3	—	149,941	576 2 1	—	190,516	825 2 3	—	123,277	533 18	—	88,456	383 2	—
— Lawns, Silefia	90,020	1,100 4 3	—	90,168	1,163 14 5	—	102,584	1,607 12 3	—	82,016	1,248 15 4	—	64,472	931 3 10	—
— Ozenbrigs	122,812	760 18 1	—	16,875	104 11	—	12,659	98 13 3	—	30,000	233 17 5	—	21,562	161 8 9	—
— Sheets old	4,902	12 11 7	—	5,982	15 5 8	—	8,826	28 3 4	—	11,544	36 16 10	—	5,334	16 19 5	—
— Ruffia Broad	165,693	1,092 13 6	—	194,313	1,258 12 6	—	279,958	2,319 4 2	—	241,473	2,039 11 5	—	157,809	1,300 13 7	—
— Diaper Ruffia Broad	12,838	62 2 9	—	9,333	45 3 6	—	17,422	105	—	29,268	178 5	—	13,699	83 8 7	—
Totals	8,461,031	52,807 18 11	—	7,989,160	49,675 11 8	—	10,482,730	77,665 19 5	—	10,079,851	69,090 17 4	—	6,740,960	44,748 9 6	—





Foreign Linens exported, continued from *Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1766.*

	From <i>Christmas 1761 to Christmas 1762.</i>			1763.			1764.			1765.			1766.		
	Quantities.	Drawbacks.		Quantities.	Drawbacks.		Quantities.	Drawbacks.		Quantities.	Drawbacks.		Quantities.	Drawbacks.	
	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.
Hinderlands, Brown and White	206½	—	17 10	48½	—	4 1	28,273½	—	—	—	—	—	286½	—	1 2 4
Holland and Flanders under 1½ Ell -	50,186½	2,092	6 11	61,377½	2,558	18 7	17,41½	1,115	16 9	25,370	935	10 7	25,710	964	6 2
— D <sup>r</sup> striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,940	100	14 9	1,377½	63	17 3	3,417½	196	18 —
Hollands Duck	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,940	No Drawback	—	337½	No Drawback	—	498½	No Drawback	—
Lawn, Silica	78,624	1,197	2 5	123,208	1,875	19 2	104,016	1,563	6 9	29,576	404	3 11	23,456	331	8 2
— Hollands striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	— 9
Muscovia Narrow	88,953½	385	6 —	102,793½	445	3 9	103,506½	424	9 5	114,703½	460	9 3	68,425	271	2 7
Ozebriga	—	—	—	32,630	254	7 5	187½	1	3 2	17,450	121	7 3	27,426½	102	19 2
— Above 22½, under 31½ Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,997½	11	6 —	89,595	548	10 —
— Above 31½, under 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,937½	78	12 —	164,853½	1,443	15 6
— Drilling	68,323½	221	18 6	130,858½	425	1 —	222,736½	714	19 10	60,737½	161	8 5	67,896½	200	18 11
— Duck	177½	No Drawback	—	—	—	—	40,910	No Drawback	—	59,822½	No Drawback	—	25,676½	No Drawback	—
Sheets, old	9,126	29	2 5	5754	18	7 4	13,266	41	14 4	5,796	16	15 7	5,760	17	5 —
— Ruffia Broad	162,240½	1,210	— 9	286,016½	2,354	1 5	315,026½	2,663	17 6	234,356½	1,763	11 10	74,641½	1,967	— 11
— Daper Ruffia Broad	14,780	98	19 3	18,638	128	11 10	23,800	184	10 10	9,983	71	16 1	633	7	11 11
— Linen, Italian, stained or dyed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,787½	93	7 8
Totals	599,9706½	41,480	5 9	804,6855½	55,626	2 5	7,889,265½	50,704	1 2	6,394,147	38,303	11 —	7,171,891	44,437	3 9

Foreign Licens exported, continued from Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1771.

	From Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1767.			1768.			1769.			1770.			1771.		
	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Barbers Aprons, or Checks	4,460	132 6 —	No Drawback	140	2 12 7	No Drawback	120	2 15 5	No Drawback	9,760	373 11 7	No Drawback	1,582	186 8 8	No Drawback
Borelaps	162,272	697 6 10	2,853 8 4	143,325	860 18 9	2,897 15 10	91,016	1,084 9 10	2,298 3 6	105,605	717 6 —	3,543 1 —	6,120	21 4 9	3,543 1 —
Cumbricks	135,245	2,853 8 4	10,695	649,512	2,897 15 10	196 15 6	159,451	2,298 3 6	7,979	787,450	3,543 1 —	3,543 1 —	373,384	1,444 16 11	3,543 1 —
Canvas Heffas	59,856	101 7 9	424 15 7	13,288	9793	443 — 8	510,675	121 11 8	5,401	5,956	88 2 —	302 8 11	212,422	3,028 15 9	3,028 15 9
— Spruce or Packing	10,695	424 15 7	297 5 1	9793	443 — 8	322 2 7	7,979	241 5 31	5,401	5,956	399 16 8	302 8 11	672,252	3,028 15 9	3,028 15 9
— Napkin, Silefia	9,197	297 5 1	223 8 5	2,187	322 2 7	305 11 6	24,103	294 13 3	18,924	18,924	278 11 8	413 15 8	20,226	302 8 11	302 8 11
— Tabling, Silefia	20,272	223 8 5	180	8,277	305 11 6	—	5,811	213 3 4	5,432	5,432	199 13 8	476 3 10	9,221	413 15 8	413 15 8
— Napkin, Silefia	6,070	223 8 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	451 19 2	34,461	476 3 10	476 3 10
— Napkin, Holland	180	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,325	451 19 2	451 19 2
— Napkin, Ruffia	24	1 16 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Napkin, Ruffia	16,104	60 13 3	—	23,021	84 7 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ruffia, Narrow, under 1 Ell	231	2 12 10	—	—	—	—	23,421	49 3 5	25,062	25,062	91 19 10	—	39,736	145 14 2	145 14 2
— East Country Narrow	821	3 5 —	—	783	4 1 —	—	8,205	31 12 5	5,036	5,036	19 13 8	—	1,590	11 1 7	11 1 7
— Germany Broad	78,903	1,228 13 3	—	103,593	1,650 9 5	—	9,473	1,214 4 —	57,911	57,911	904 8 1	—	20,366	315 1 2	315 1 2
— D under 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,312	654 5 7	654 5 7
— D above 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	285	11 18 1	11 18 1
— D Striped under 36 Inches	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Narrow	5,519,847	33,237 16 3	—	5,894,963	35,763 8 2	—	5,114,337	30,795 1 —	5,777,426	5,777,426	34,583 18 11	—	7,213,495	43,414 2 4	43,414 2 4
— D Striped	467	11 14 10	—	18,008	382 14 6	—	5,373	10 2 7	5,766	5,766	110 — 2	—	13,786	253 15 3	253 15 3
— Flanders, Brown and White	127	— 0 11	—	—	—	—	1,815	6 13 —	2,287	2,287	8 18 10	—	83	— 6 7	— 6 7
— Holland and Flanders, above 1 1 Ell	25,351	952 16 5	—	31,085	1,193 10 9	—	19,661	737 5 2	20,966	20,966	796 — 5	—	23,971	891 5 5	891 5 5
— D Striped	5,486	276 3 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	371	18 1 9	18 1 9
— Lawns, Silefia	43,280	617 5 5	—	280,808	4,108 12 9	—	27,904	3,815 2 7	3,443	3,443	4,401 2 10	—	377,824	5,420 18 2	5,420 18 2

## 1773. REPORT relative to the LINEN TRADE

Foreign Linens exported, continued from Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1771.

	From Christmas 1766 to Christmas 1767.			1768.			1769.			1770.			1771.		
	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.	Quantities.		Drawbacks.
	Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.		Yards.	£. s. d.	
Lawns, Hollands, whitened	17,404	343 4 6	—	114,997	2,211 13 7	—	134,842	2,555 10 9	—	37,30	6 10	—	251,743	4,731 2 10	—
Do Striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	320	17 11 11	—
Linen, French	1,875	53 7 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Muscovia Narrow	143,475	588 — 8	—	47,170	184 8 8	—	30,355	122 3 1	—	163 9 4	—	—	96,481½	377 10 8	—
Do striped	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Osnaburghs	16,673½	117 6 2	—	8,000	56 5 6	—	7,461½	52 9 10	—	13,595	26 17 3	—	24,499	190 18 3	—
Do { Above 22½ under 31½ Inches	97,391½	571 13 8	—	167,311½	981 6 4	—	203,760	1,206 15 3	—	445,690	2,038 10 11	—	315,021½	1,862 1 11	—
Do { Above 31½ under 45	165,263½	3,070 — 10	—	249,471	2,200 4 10	—	14,680	128 16 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do { Above 45 under 36	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,977½	60 18 3	—	19,722½	179 4 2	—	27,796½	245 19 2	—
Do { Above 36 under 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	221,415	4,172 8 3	—	231,558½	4,374 — 2	—	406,338½	7,641 9 10	—
Do { Above 45 under 31½	—	—	—	112½	2 15 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	297½	7 14 9	—
Diaper, broad, above 22½ under 31½	73,997½	959 12 1	—	121,747½	1,578 10 10	—	134,423½	1,745 1 1	—	470	2 15 1	—	2,376½	13 18 8	—
Do Drilling	12,495½	12 18 6	—	3,931½	No Drawback	—	10,331½	No Drawback	—	204,632½	2,654 9 4	—	27,437½	3,539 2 10	—
Do Duck	4,158	2 18 3	—	5,136	15 4 8	—	6,570	19 15 9	—	No Drawback	No Drawback	—	1,575	No Drawback	—
Do Turkey Linen	176½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16 7 1	—	—	6,768	20 5 5	—
Do Striped	365	12 11 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do Ruffia Broad	9,654½	86 7 5	—	410	2 2 1	—	838½	3 10 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do Diaper Ruffia Broad	2,269	18 14 1	—	108	— 7 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do Linen, Italian	620	22 15 8	—	2,425	8 10 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do { Dr stained or dyed	—	—	—	1,923½	255 13 10	—	2,125	282 8 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	71,774,784	46,838 14 11	—	8,046,980½	35,718 5 2	—	7,102,327½	51,364 3 9	—	60,280 5 3	—	—	104,470,129½	76,308 — 1	—

J. T. Tombs,  
Assistant Inspector General.Custom House, London,  
4th May 1773.

N<sup>o</sup> 14.

An ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Raw Linen Yarn imported into *England* from Foreign Parts, for Twenty Years preceeding *January 1772*, with the Duties paid thereon, distinguishing each Year.

		Yarn Linen Raw.						Yarn Linen Raw, Spruce or Mul-covia.				
		Quantities.		Duties.				Quantities.		Duties.		
		Pounds Wt.		£.	s.	d.			Pounds Wt.	£.	s.	d.
From <i>Christmas</i> to <i>Christmas</i>	1751 }	2,037,995		8,617	4	6		374,528		1,563	13	7
	1752 }											
	1753 }	1,991,087		8,296	3	11		1,154,668		4,811	2	4
	1754 }	1,293,550		5,389	15	10		818,778		3,411	11	6
	1755 }	1,392,452		5,801	17	8		299,735		1,248	17	11
	1756 }	2,215,287		4,636	—	3		928,498		1,934	7	5
	1757 }	1,644,553						1,547,580				
	1758 }	1,101,686						1,210,954				
	1759 }	1,408,020						1,006,129				
	1760 }	1,737,848						1,706,677				
	1761 }	1,282,637						397,985				
	1762 }	1,132,031						664,877				
	1763 }	1,830,026						1,118,203				
	1764 }	1,647,306						1,622,730				
	1765 }	1,722,259						698,138				
	1766 }	2,163,657						512,915				
	1767 }	3,290,543						981,123				
1768 }	2,398,642						942,477					
1769 }	2,424,682						1,253,291					
1770 }	3,815,551						1,619,883					
1771 }	3,943,322						1,332,627					

Note. By 29th Geo. 2d, all Raw Linen Yarn, imported since the 24th June 1756, was imported free of Duty.

Custom House, London,  
7th May 1773.

J<sup>n</sup>: Tomkyns, Assistant Inspector General.

N<sup>o</sup> 15.

An ACCOUNT of the Quantities of *British* and *Irish* Cottons and Linens, printed, painted, or stained, which have been exported from *England*, for Ten Years preceeding *January 1772*.

		Quantities.
		Square Yards.
From <i>Christmas</i> 1761 to <i>Christmas</i>	1762	179,625
	1763	299,447
	1764	195,963
	1765	326,184
	1766	297,770
	1767	396,544
	1768	334,150
	1769	245,290
	1770	266,539
	1771	410,678

Note. *British* printed Cottons are blended with the *British* and *Irish* printed Linens in the Entries Outwards; for which Reason the Inspector General cannot separate the Linens from the Cottons.

Custom House, London,  
7th May 1773.

J<sup>n</sup>: Tomkyns,  
Assistant Inspector General.

N° 16.

An ACCOUNT of the Total Quantities of Ticks or Tickings imported into that Part of Great Britain called England, and exported from thence, for Twenty Years preceding January 1772, with the Duties and Drawbacks paid thereon; distinguishing each Year.

	Ticks or Tickings imported.						Ticks or Tickings exported.					
	Ticks or Tickings, East Country.			Ticks or Tickings, Germany.			Ticks or Tickings, East Country.			Ticks or Tickings, Germany.		
	Quantities.			Quantities.			Quantities.			Quantities.		
	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Duties.	Piece.	£. s. d.	Yards.	£.	s. d.	Drawbacks.	Piece.	£. s. d.
From Christmas to Christmas	1752	323	2 11 6	752 11 5	2,096		—	—	—	—	1,112	39 13 3
	1753	328	2 12 4	890 9 6	2,480		348	2 1 11	—	—	1,157	374 4 4
	1754	112	— 17 10	623 13 10	1,737		112	— 14 4	—	—	762	246 9 2
	1755	318	2 12 9	577 7 5	1,668		—	—	—	—	1,752	404 12 10
	1756	138	1 2	558 12 3	1,555		—	—	—	—	804	259 11 2
	1757	56	— 9 11	577 3 10	1,607		—	—	—	—	958	399 17 1
	1758	—	—	1,110 18 9	3,094		—	—	—	—	1,538	513 12 4
	1759	142	1 2 8	1,179 10 5	3,285		—	—	—	—	2,537	852 18 1
	1760	6	— 1	1,047 14 10	2,918		—	—	—	—	2,446	791 2 6
	1761	65	— 10 4	1,099 9	3,062		—	—	—	—	1,363	440 16 10
	1762	54	— 8 7	666 19 2	1,857		—	—	—	—	1,125	362 17 4
	1763	—	—	998 — 3	2,779		—	—	—	—	2,130	601 16 8
	1764	548	4 7 5	1,172 6 9	3,465		—	—	—	—	2,025	582 19 3
	1765	219	1 14 11	783 5 3	2,181		—	—	—	—	1,522	438 1 —
	1766	—	—	771 8 11	2,143		—	—	—	—	1,186	341 6 11
	1767	13	— 2 1	989 15 1	2,756		—	—	—	—	1,385	398 12 5
	1768	53	— 8 6	766 8 4	2,134		—	—	—	—	1,609	463 1 9
	1769	6	— 1	657 16 —	1,832		—	—	—	—	725	268 13 3
	1770	51	— 8 1	512 14 10	1,428		—	—	—	—	693	199 9 1
	1771	300	2 7 10	1,501 4 9	4,181		300	1 18 10	—	—	2,634	757 1 6

Capt. Hough, London, 7th May 1773.

Jas. Tompkins, Assistant Inspector General.

N<sup>o</sup> 17.

An ACCOUNT of the Total Quantities of *British* and *Irish* Linens exported from *England*, from the Commencement of the Bounty to *January 1772*; distinguishing the Quantities and Bounties paid each Year.

		British Linens.		Irish Linens.		Bounties paid or payable.		
		Yards.		Yards.		£.	s.	d.
From Lady Day 1743 to Christmas	1743	52,779		40,907		383	10	8
From Christmas 1743 to Christmas	1744	49,521		28,255		311	7	9
	1745	56,240		101,928		747	17	6
	1746	175,928		695,002		4,188	10	9
	1747	238,014		595,277		4,290	12	—
	1748	330,747		723,663		5,594	1	10
	1749	414,834		965,897		8,615	1	4
	1750	588,874		742,032		8,308	16	3
	1751	527,976		854,490		8,617	8	2
	1752	437,277		968,319		8,775	13	10
	1753	641,510		1,039,907		10,508	16	5
	1754	1,382,796		843,973		13,905	7	11
	1755	41,367		51,040		577	11	—
	1756	394,746		719,135		6,932	11	8
	1757	1,016,754		2,005,575		18,847	3	8
	1758	1,942,667		2,171,109		25,690	15	4
	1759	1,693,087		1,956,572		22,807	11	1
	1760	1,413,602		2,352,583		23,538	13	1
	1761	1,272,985		1,819,329		19,324	11	3
	1762	1,762,643		2,030,476		29,131	19	10
	1763	2,308,310		2,588,564		30,604	6	9
	1764	2,134,733		1,858,780		24,863	9	3
	1765	2,095,913		1,663,670		23,497	10	4
	1766	2,236,086		1,770,634		25,042	—	—
	1767	2,444,181		2,227,124		29,182	6	11
	1768	2,687,457		2,270,160		30,985	2	1
	1769	3,056,950		1,855,159		30,699	3	5
	1770	3,210,506		2,707,482		36,979	18	4
	1771	4,411,040		3,450,224		44,738	8	10

Custom House, London,  
8th May 1773.

J<sup>r</sup> Temkyns, Assistant Inspector General.





F I R S T

R E P O R T

F R O M T H E

C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O

T H E N A T U R E, S T A T E, A N D C O N D I T I O N,

O F T H E

*E A S T I N D I A* C O M P A N Y,

A N D O F T H E

*B R I T I S H* A F F A I R S I N T H E *E A S T I N D I E S*.

• Reported on the Twenty-sixth of *May* 1772.

Together with an APPENDIX, referred to in the said Report.



F I R S T

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

### THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION,

OF THE

### E A S T I N D I A C O M P A N Y,

AND OF THE

### BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE E A S T I N D I E S.

*The 26th of May 1772.*

**T**HE Committee have found it impossible, with their utmost Diligence, to go through the Multiplicity of Matter, which the Order of the House comprehends; and they, besides, have thought themselves obliged to depart from the regular Course of their Enquiry, in order to make a distinct and separate Report, upon the Petition of *Gregore Cojamaul*, late of *Bengal*, in the *East Indies*, on Behalf of himself and others, which the House referred to them by a subsequent Order.

Notwithstanding the Business of Your Committee has been by this Circumstance, and by the Insufficiency of the Time, left incomplete; yet as the Session, as they apprehend, is drawing to a Conclusion, and as every Part of their Enquiry is full of important Matter, they thought it right to report the Progress they have hitherto been enabled to make.

Your Committee beg Leave to premise, that, for the Regularity of their Enquiry, and in order to give the clearest State of it to the House, they thought it expedient to arrange their Proceedings under the following Heads:

1<sup>st</sup>. The several Charters granted to the *East India* Company, by the Acts of Parliament respecting the same; and also, the Grants and Treaties which have subsisted between the Company and the Powers in *India*, from their first Establishment to the present Time.

2<sup>dy</sup>. The Commissions, and other Instruments, by which the Company authorized and impowered their Servants to carry on their Affairs in *India*.

3<sup>dly</sup>. To pursue, by historical Deduction, the State of Affairs in *India*, the Manner in which the present Possessions in that Country were acquired, and the different Transactions attending those Acquisitions; beginning with the Transactions of *Bengal*, and dividing them into Three Periods; *viz.* from the Establishment of the present Company to the Completion of the Revolution, in the Year 1757; from thence to the assuming the De-

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wanny in the Year 1765; and from thence to the present Time; and in each Period respectively to state the Situation of the Company's Affairs, and the material Parts of the Conduct of the Company's Servants, with respect to the Powers intrusted with them by the Company, in the Civil and Military Departments; in the Administration of Justice; in the accepting of Presents; in the Management of Trade; and in the Revenues and Coinage.

4<sup>thly</sup>. The various Disputes with Foreign Companies since the Year 1765.

5<sup>thly</sup>. The Conduct of the Directors at Home, during all the Periods comprehended in this Enquiry, respectively, to the different Powers exercised at any Time by them; to the Manner of keeping and checking Public Accounts at Home and Abroad; to the Controul of their Servants; and to the Abuses to which the Whole, or any Part, of the *East India* Affairs is liable, from Defects in the Constitution of the Company, when applied to their present Situation at Home and Abroad.

Pursuant to the above Plan, Your Committee proceeded to read such Charters and Acts of Parliament as are applicable to their Enquiry; all of which are in the Possession of the House, and a Schedule of them is annexed, in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 1.

The Copies of Commissions and Instruments from the Company to their Servants, are included in the above Number of the Appendix.

Your Committee would not presume to state to the House the Constitution of the *East India* Company, without the most critical and minute Examination of each Charter and Act of Parliament; and they could not, in the Space of Time allotted them, enter upon so great a Work, which may be taken up hereafter and stated from the Materials referred to in the Appendix.

Your Committee proceeded to enquire into the Nature and Extent of the Privileges and Powers claimed in *Bengal* by the Company, under Grants and Firms from the

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the

the Princes of the Country; Copies of which, for the Information of the House, are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 2.

Your Committee not finding Traces of any very material Disturbances in the Enjoyment of those Privileges and Powers in Bengal, from the First Establishment of the Company, to the Death of *Alli Ver di Cawn*, in the Year 1756, applied themselves to discover the Causes of the Troubles which ensued soon after that Event, and brought on the Loss of *Calcutta*; and for this Purpose, Your Committee read the Consultations and Correspondence marked in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 3.

To the same Purpose Your Committee called *Charles Manningham*, Esquire.

Your Committee think proper, in this Place, to state to the House, that they have not been able for want of Time to extract from their Minutes the State of Facts so succinctly as they would otherwise have done; and therefore they are under the Necessity of laying before the House, in this and every other Part of their Proceedings, the Evidence almost in the Manner they received it.

*Charles Manningham*, Esquire, informed Your Committee, That in the Year 1756, he was Third in Council, and Warehouse Keeper at *Calcutta*, and next to Mr. *Drake* upon the Spot; that he thinks it is not in the Power of any Man to assign the Reason for the Origin of the Troubles, and knows of no Part of the Conduct of the Company's Servants at *Calcutta*, that could incense the Government; that the Troubles commenced in June 1756.—*Alli Ver di Cawn*, the Predecessor of *Serajab Dowlah*, died about the April preceding; that *Serajab Dowlah* had always the Character of a rash vicious young Man; and it was supposed the First Occasion of his coming against *Calcutta* was, that he was tempted by the Idea of the Place being likely to afford great Plunder; that the First Accounts the Factory had of his ill Intentions towards them, was the Beginning of June 1756.

Being questioned as to what he knew of Offence taken by the Nabob, in regard to Protection given by the *English* to one *Kisindaji*; he said, That Mr. *Drake* was Governor of the Settlement, and Mr. *Watts* was Chief of *Cossimbuzar*, and believes, that *Kisindaji* was at that Time in the *Dacca* Part of the Country; that Mr. *Watts* wrote to Mr. *Drake*, to suffer *Kisindaji* to land at *Calcutta*, in his Way to *Muxadavad*, by Way of Refreshment, as his Family had been useful to the *English*; that as Mr. *Drake* was absent at the Time Mr. *Watts*'s Letter arrived, the Letter was sent under Cover to the Witness to be opened, and he is not quite sure whether that Period was before or after the Death of *Alli Ver di Cawn*; that *Kisindaji* landed at *Calcutta* accordingly; that he never saw him, and that when Mr. *Drake* arrived a few Days after, he delivered him the Letter.

The Witness said, He was upon the Spot when *Serajab Dowlah* came down, and believes *Kisindaji* was not then in the Town; he does not recollect, that *Serajab Dowlah* made any Demand for the delivering up of *Kisindaji*, but that if he did it would appear upon the public Proceedings.

Being further questioned, he repeated, That it was impossible to give any rational Account of the Origin of the Troubles; and said, That he was at *Muxadavad*, at the Time Lord *Clive* was there in July of the same Year; that Enquiry was then made with all possible Attention, but without Success, into the Motives of *Serajab Dowlah*'s Conduct, from his principal Officers, and likewise from the Officers of his Predecessor, from the *Seas*, and every other Person from whom Information was likely to be obtained.

Being asked, Whether *Kisindaji* was really protected or not, what Time he remained in *Calcutta*, after Mr.

*Drake*'s Return, and whether he knew or had heard, before the Taking of *Calcutta*, that the Nabob demanded *Kisindaji*? he said, *Kisindaji* was permitted to land, but how long he staid he could not tell, and that he had heard at that Time of his being demanded: He also said, he was reckoned to be very rich, and that he had a Number of Boats, and it was supposed he had Treasure with him.

Being further asked, Whether *Kisindaji*'s coming to *Calcutta*, was considered as an Escape from *Serajab Dowlah*? he said, It could not be considered as an Escape, because he was coming in his Way from *Dacca* to *Muxadavad*, where the Nabob was; he could not form any Opinion, whether *Kisindaji* at the Time he landed at *Calcutta*, in his Way to *Muxadavad* or *Cossimbuzar*, knew of the Death of *Alli Ver di Cawn*, or the Succession of *Serajab Dowlah*.

Being asked, Whether it was in Council that he heard the Report that the Nabob had formerly demanded the Delivery of *Kisindaji*? he said, That he heard at the Time that Mr. *Drake* had received a Letter from the Nabob to that Purport, and had answered, That no further Protection had been given to *Kisindaji*, than a Permission to land in his Way to *Muxadavad*; that it was either in Council or Committee he heard it, but could not say which, and thinks this Letter of the Demand must have been received while *Kisindaji* was in the Place; the Witness knew of no further Demand from the Nabob relative to *Kisindaji*, nor any Demand of any other Nature, except a trifling Circumstance of a Gentleman having erected a Summer House in his Garden, which had been represented to the Nabob as a Fortification, but it was explained to the Nabob, and a Desire expressed, that he would send to examine it.

He further said, That the *English* had no Intercourse with the Nabob, and assigned no Cause to his Knowledge, for coming down against them.

Being asked, Whether it is not the Custom in Bengal, that the Prime Minister of a preceding Nabob or of his Subordinates, should stand forth and be amenable to the Power of the reigning Nabob, and not withdraw himself? he said, The Nature of the Government being arbitrary, did naturally expect it, but whether it is the Custom he could not say; but that undoubtedly if this is refused, the Nabobs usually endeavour by all Means in their Power to compel them to be amenable.

The Witness knew of no Cause for any Complaint of Tenants of the Mogul being protected by the *English* in *Calcutta*, nor of any such Complaint being transmitted to the Factory, either directly from the Nabob or from Mr. *Watts*.

Notice being taken, that it appeared by certain Proceedings of the Governor and Council of *Fort Saint George*, that Mr. *Manningham* had objected to several Articles in the various Accounts or Informations transmitted to them from Bengal, respecting the Capture of *Calcutta*; and it further appearing by the said Proceedings, that in Consequence of such Objections from Mr. *Manningham*, the several Informations were officially delivered to him, in order to state his Objections at that Time; the Witness was then asked, Whether he had ever delivered in any Answer upon the Reference so made to him? to which he said, That he was deputed by the Governor of *Calcutta* to go to *Madras*, and carried a Letter directed to the Governor and Council at *Madras*, and was commissioned to give them a further Account, by Word of Mouth, of the Affairs of the Factory.

In regard to a Messenger coming from the Nabob to *Calcutta*, upon the Subject of Protection given to the Nabob's Tenants, and the Treatment of that Messenger; the Witness said, He knew of a Messenger coming with a Letter addressed to the President, and

wrote in *Perjan*, and to the best of his Remembrance, a Part of that Letter related, as he mentioned before, to *Kisfindasi*; he does not recollect whether he saw the Letter or not, and believed Mr. *Drake*, upon the Messenger delivering the Letter, ordered him to leave the Town; he believes an Answer was sent afterwards, and the Purport of it was, that *Kisfindasi* was only allowed to land, and no Protection was given him; the Messenger, he believed, staid but a few Hours in the Town after he delivered the Letter; he was an *Hircarrah*, by Name, as he believes, *Norranzing*.

Being asked, Whether the Answer to the Nabob's Letter was communicated to the Council, or whether it was sent as Mr. *Drake*'s private Letter? the Witness said, The Purport of both the Letter and the Answer itself were communicated; he does not recollect, who the Answer was sent by, nor how long it might be after the Receipt of the Letter, but believes it might be the same Day or the Day following, and did not recollect the whole Contents of the Letter.

Being asked, If it was the usual Practice, when a Messenger brought a Letter from the Nabob, to order him to leave the Town without any Answer sent with him? he said, It was not; nor could he assign any Reason for so doing, for the Receipt of the Letter was not public, nor was the Treatment of the Messenger so.

In regard to the Measures the Factory took to pacify the Nabob, after they were informed of his hostile Intentions, the Witness said, Mr. *Drake* was repeatedly desired to write to the Nabob, to know the Cause of his Resentment, and that he had no Doubt but he did so, but believed he received no Answer; among other Methods, *Coya Wasseed*, a Merchant of considerable Rank and Substance, and likewise a Tenant of several considerable *Fasmas*, was requested by Letters to apply to the Nabob, to know the Reason of his Resentment, and was desired to act as a Mediator upon the Occasion; it was also tried to be informed by Means of this *Coya Wasseed*, whether Money was the only Object in View, and, in general, he was requested to interest himself as well as he could to appease the Nabob; his Answer was, That it was not in his Power to be of any Use upon the Occasion, and that the Payment of a Sum of Money was not the Object, the Reason of applying to *Coya Wasseed*, was that he was supposed to be a Man of some Weight, and in Favour with the Nabob, from the Circumstance of his having entertained him at his House when he was Chuta Nabob.

The Witness being asked, Whether he had any Reason to believe, that any Sum of Money or Present was given to Mr. *Drake*, or any other Person, by *Kisfindasi*? he said, He did not know, nor had any Reason to believe, that any were given to Mr. *Drake*, or any other Person.

Being again questioned, Whether he was sure, that *Kisfindasi* was not received in *Calcutta*, before the Death of *Alli Ver di Cawn*? he said, He was not sure—And whether the Contents of the Letter from Mr. *Watts*, were not to permit *Kisfindasi* to remain Two Months in the Town, and that there was a particular Recommendation of *Kisfindasi*'s Family, as being particularly serviceable to the *English*? he said, He could not recollect the particular Purport of the Letter; that in general it was a warm Recommendation of *Kisfindasi*, as the Son of *Rajah Bullab*, a Man of Power and Interest at the Durbur, and who might be of Service to the Affairs of the *India Company* at the Durbur.

Your Committee next called *Richard Becher*, Esquire, who was desired to relate what he knew of the Origin of the Troubles in *Bengal*: And he informed the Committee, That about the End of the Year 1755, he was appointed Chief of the Subordinate Factory at *Dacca*; that from that Time he did not attend at any of the Councils that were held at *Calcutta*, and of Course

could only speak of Transactions that passed there, by Report from others; that at the Time the Letter of the 10th of July 1756, was wrote from *Dacca*, himself and the other Gentlemen that signed it, were Prisoners to the Nabob, and by his Permission allowed to reside in the *French Factory*; that, for some Time before the Taking of *Calcutta*, they had no Correspondence with the Gentlemen of *Fort William*, but for Intelligence were obliged to trust to the Natives of the Country, or what the *French* received from their Settlement at *Chandernagore*; that he thought it his Duty at that Time to forward to the Court of Directors, and to the Governor and Council at *Madras*, such Intelligence as he was able by those Means to procure; that he has since had the greatest Reason to believe, the Accounts transmitted to the Governor and Council at *Madras*, then obtained from the *French*, were greatly exaggerated, and very fallacious in many Particulars; that the Report of *Kisfindasi*'s being received and protected in *Calcutta*, being a Cause assigned by *Serajah Dowla* for his Displeasure against the *English*, he heard from Numbers of People where he then was, both *French* and Natives, and he gave Credit to it, and therefore assigned it to the Court of Directors as the principal Reason.

In relation to the Affair of *Kisfindasi*, the Witness said, That he recollected to have heard *Kisfindasi* was received in *Calcutta* about the latter End of March 1756, and remained there till the Place was taken by *Serajah Dowla*, on the 20th of June; he and *Omichund* were both Prisoners in the Factory by Order of the Governor, as he believed: And the Witness further said, That in the Situation the *India Company* then were, as Merchants living under the Protection of the Country Government, he then was, and still is, of Opinion, that neither *Kisfindasi*, nor any other Subject of the Nabob, should have been received and protected in the Company's Settlement; and he still thinks, that this did give a Pretence to *Serajah Dowla*, to shew his Resentment against the *English*, but at the same Time he is now convinced, from the many Opportunities he hath since had of conversing with those who were at that Time principal Officers and in high Station about *Serajah Dowla*, at *Muxadavad*, that even if that Pretence had not been given, he would have marched his Army down against *Calcutta*; his Object was Money, *Calcutta* was reported to be very rich, and so were the other European Settlements of *Chandernagore* and *Chinjura*; *Serajah Dowla* was a young Man, violent, passionate, of great Ambition, tainted with Avarice, and he expected both Wealth and Honour, by attacking the European Settlements, and by extorting Money from them; that this appears from his Conduct in attacking *Calcutta*, and from the Sums he extorted from the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Danes*, after that Transaction.

The Witness being asked, Whether he ever heard of the Nabob's demanding *Kisfindasi* after he was received in *Calcutta*? he said, He did not recollect that he heard it before *Calcutta* was taken, though he may have done so, but he heard it soon after: That his Opinion at that Time was, that if *Kisfindasi* had been delivered up, and a Sum of Money offered, the Nabob would not have proceeded to the Lengths he did in attacking *Calcutta*; and he grounded this Opinion in great Measure upon what had been the former Custom of the Nabobs and Princes of that Country, when they were displeased with the *English*: That *Alli Ver di Cawn*, who was a wife Prince, had upon different Occasions shewn his Displeasure and taken Money from them, but appeared always to be so sensible of the Benefits accruing to his Country, by the Trade carried on by the *English*, that he never proceeded further than to put a Stop to the Trade of the Company, and to place Forces round their Factories, by which Means he always brought them to the Terms he pleased.

The Witnesses being asked, Whether he knew of any Money unjustly taken from the Company by *Ali Ver di Cawn*, or any Troubles arising from Demands of Money previous to the Accession of *Serajab Dowla*? he said, He recollected Two Instances where Sums of Money were taken, the First, to the best of his Remembrance in 1744 or 1745, when he made a Demand upon all the European Settlements in his Dominions, and gave as Reasons for it, the great Expence he was obliged to be at in maintaining a very large Army to defend his Country, and those who lived under his Protection, from the *Mharattas*, who used at that Time almost annually to invade *Bengal*; that the *English* Company, at that Time, was obliged to pay Three Lack and a Half of Rupees, as well as he could remember; and the other European Nations in Proportion to their Trade:—That he recollects another Instance, about the Year 1748 or 1749, when the Company's Trade was stopped, and Forces put round their subordinate Factories for several Months, in Consequence of the Complaint of an *Armenian*, who had freighted Goods on a Ship under Dutch Colours, which Ship was taken by Commodore *Giffin* or some of his Squadron, and condemned, as he understood, for having French Property on board: The *Armenian* living under the Protection of the Nabob of *Fengal*, made his Complaint to the Nabob of the Loss of his Property, and the Nabob insisted on the *English* making good to him the Loss he had sustained by that Capture: At that Time Orders from Home were peremptory, not to comply with the Demands made by the Country Government; in Consequence of which, the Gentlemen refused to comply with the Demand made by the Nabob; but after using their Endeavours for several Months to pacify him, they were obliged to submit: That he supposes the Company looked upon the Demand of the Three Lack and a Half by *Ali Ver di Cawn* as a hostile one, and believed the Orders above-mentioned were sent out in Consequence of it.

The Witnesses being asked, Whether he knew, or believed, that Mr. *Drake* or any other Person received Money or Presents from *Kisindas*, for the Protection given him? said, He did not know, nor did he believe that he or any other Person did receive either Money or Presents.

*John Cooke*, Esquire, who in the Year 1756 was Secretary to the Governor and Council at *Calcutta*, being called to the same Point as the above Witnesses, gave the following Narrative from Notes taken by him soon after the Transactions of that Year, and since copied with his own Hand.

*Ali Ver di Cawn*, Nabob of the Three Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, died on the 9th of April 1756, and *Serajab Dowla* took Possession of his Government, agreeably to the Will and Intention of his Grandfather, who had, even in his Life-time, seated him on the Musnud, and obliged the Officers of his Durbar to do him Homage as Subah; this paved the Way for his being acknowledged and obeyed as such, without Hesitation or Dispute, immediately on the Death of the old Nabob:—The only Shew of Opposition that he met with, was from the Widow of *Nawaljis Cawn*, who had got a Body of Men together to secure the Wealth she was left in Possession of by the Death of her Husband, in Case the young Subah should attempt to seize it:—This was soon adjusted, and her Troops disbanded, upon Promise of being left unmolested in her Person and Riches, by which Means all was quiet at the Capital, and *Serajab Dowla's* Authority universally established in the dependant Provinces, except in *Poornea*, the Nabob whereof (a Relation) refused to trust himself in the Hands of the young Subah, and therefore would not come to *Moorsbedavada*, but kept himself in his Province of *Poornea*, at the Head of his Army:—This obliged *Serajab Dowla* to take the Field very soon after his Accession to the Subalship, and march up as far as *Raja*

*Maul* to intimidate the *Poornean*, and force him to come to the Durbar.

Presently after the Death of the old Nabob, President *Drake* wrote *Serajab Dowla* a Letter of Congratulation on his Accession, and desired his Favour and Protection to the *English* Company, which was received very kindly, and Promises given our Vackeel, that he would shew the *English* greater Marks of Friendship and Esteem than ever his Grandfather had done.

About this Juncture the Company's Packet per *Delawar* was received from *Madras*, by which we found there was the greatest Likelihood imaginable of a Rupture between us and *France*, and the Court of Directors particularly recommended to the Governor and Council to be strictly on their Guard, and to put their Fortifications in the best State of Defence they could:—In Consequence of these Advices the Line of Guns towards the River was repaired and strengthened, and some other trifling Works erected, particularly a Redoubt at *Perria's* Garden, which had been planned by Colonel *Scott*. This Circumstance is mentioned, as the Subah made it one of his Pretences for attacking the *English*.

It is necessary to take Notice, that one *Kisindas* (who had been in the Government's Service as Duast and Naib of *Dacca*) had embarked himself, his Women and Effects, on a large Number of Boats, upon the Death of *Nawaljis Cawn* (which happened not long before that of old *Ali Ver di Cawn*) and had sheltered himself from the Power of *Serajab Dowla* in the Woods below *Dacca*, till he heard that his Father *Kadgubuludas* was set at Liberty, and seemingly resolved to Favour; then, under Pretence of going upon a Pilgrimage to *Saugers* or *Jaggernaut*, he landed himself and Effects in *Calcutta* on the 16th of *Marib*, in his Passage down the River, by Permission of the presiding Member of the Board (Mr. *Drake* being at *Balassore* for his Health):—This Anecdote is likewise mentioned for the same Reason as the Reparations to our Works, because *Serajab Dowla* made Use of his being suffered to live in *Calcutta*, as another Cause of Offence, the *English* giving Protection (so he termed it) to the Servants of the Government, by their Reception of *Kisindas* in the Settlement.

As soon as *Serajab Dowla* found himself pretty well established in the Government, he sent a *Hircarrah* (Messenger) to demand *Kisindas*; but as the *Hircarrah* came in a private Manner, and disguised, into the Settlement, the President, Mr. *Drake*, being then returned from *Balassore*, thought it improper to admit him as a Messenger from the Nabob, and ordered him to be turned out of the Bounds.

Very shortly after this Transaction the Governor received a Letter from the Subah, signifying his Displeasure at our repairing our Fortifications, or carrying on any new Works without first obtaining his Permission; and insisted, not only on our putting a Stop to such Works, but on our destroying what was already done:—The Governor's Answer not corresponding with the Subah's Impetuosity of Temper, and finding that we would not comply with his peremptory Orders for destroying our Works, he took the sudden Resolution of forcing us to a Compliance; immediately laid aside his Design of crossing the *Ganges* to bring the Nabob of *Poornea* to Reason, and marched his whole Army back to *Moorsbedavada*, having first sent Orders to *Rajah Doolubram* (alias *Roy Doolub*) to invite our Factory at *Cossimbuzar*, with a Body of Horsemen:—This Step was followed by a total Stoppage of all our Business at the *Aurungs*, and the other subordinate Factories.

The 25th May we received the first Advice of the Nabob's Orders for invading *Cossimbuzar*, and from that Time every Day brought us fresh Intelligence of that Factory being surrounded with the Subah's Forces; and that *Serajab Dowla* absolutely threatened to attack them, if we delayed or refused to destroy the Works we had erected at *Calcutta*.

Letter after Letter was dispatched to the Gentlemen, to order their Vackeel to remonstrate at the Durbar, how unjustly the Subah proceeded against the *English*, in suffering their Enemies to persuade him they were erecting strong Fortifications, when nothing was further from the Truth; which the Nabob might be satisfied of, if he would send a Person that he could confide in to *Calcutta* to see what we were doing, and report the same as it really was. Our Communication with *Cossimbuzar* began now to be difficult, and as our last Advices only served to confirm the Report of the Subah's Determination to make himself Master of that Factory first, and after that to march against the Presidency itself, a Council of War was summoned on the 5th *June*, to consider of the Situation of *Cossimbuzar* Factory, and whether it was practicable or advisable to send them a Reinforcement. The Weakness of our own Garrison (which did not then exceed 170 effective Men, not above 50 or 60 of which were *Europeans*) determined the Majority of the Officers, who assisted at that Council, to declare in Writing, that in their Opinion, it was imprudent at that Juncture to attempt sending up a Detachment for reinforcing *Cossimbuzar*, surrounded as it was by the Subah's Forces.

For the Reason already mentioned, as well as many other substantial ones, the President and Council thought it more eligible to promise Obedience to the Nabob's Orders, than to risk the Issue of a Quarrel with him, at a Time we were so ill prepared in every Respect, for Offence or Defence. A Letter to that Purport was accordingly inclosed to Mr. *Watts*, to be delivered *Serajah Dowla*; but the Ingross to our Factory being totally put a Stop to, the Chief never received this Letter.

While this was doing at *Cossimbuzar*, the Gentlemen were not idle in *Calcutta*, but exerted their utmost (as Things grew towards a Crisis) to put the Place in as good a Posture of Defence as it was capable of, and dispatched several Pattamars to *Fort Saint George* for Assistance. Orders were likewise sent to *Dacca* and the other Subordinates, to call in as much of the Company's Money and Effects that were outstanding as they could, and to hold themselves in Readiness to embark the same upon the first Notice, and bring them to *Fort William*.

On the 6th *June* it was currently reported (but nobody knew from whence it arose) that *Cossimbuzar* was delivered up to the Nabob. The Governor thereupon ordered a Survey of the Town to be made, and the Works necessary for its Defence to be laid before the Board by the Officers in Garrison, which was accordingly done the next Day: The Plan was to throw up a few Batteries fronting the principal Avenues in the Town, and a Line of Intrenchment between, which was immediately set about, and every Cooly employed to get it done: The Militia were summoned and exercised, and every other Measure taken to maintain a Siege, in Case the Nabob carried Things to that Extremity. As it was impossible to receive any Reinforcement in Time, if the Subah pursued his March to *Calcutta* immediately, the *French* and *Dutch* were applied to for Assistance: The *Dutch* declined giving us any, and the *French* only galled us with us, by offering to join their Force with ours, if we would quit our own Settlement, and carry our Garrison and Effects up to *Chandernagore*.

At One o'Clock P. M. of the 7th *June*, we received the Intelligence of *Cossimbuzar* Factory being surrendered up to *Serajah Dowla* on the 2d of that Month. This Intelligence came from Mr. *Collet*, and therefore removed all Doubts concerning the Loss of that Place, as he was Second upon the Spot. By his Letter it appeared that the Chief had been assured, that if he would wait on the Nabob in Person, he might possibly prevent the Factory being attacked, which his Council thought it more advisable for him to do, than to risk the Event of a Rupture.—Mr. *Watts* met with a very different Reception to what he expected, and he and Mess<sup>r</sup> *Collet*

and *Baifon* were forced to sign a *Mutchulka*, or Obligation, that the Nabob had got prepared; they had been promised their Liberty upon signing of it, but found there was no Faith to be put on the Subah's Word; for instead of obtaining their Liberty, Mr. *Collet* was remanded back to the Factory, and forced to give it up to the Commander in Chief of the Nabob's Troops; after which he was again carried to the Camp, and Mr. *Watts* and he kept close Prisoners, and treated in a very indifferant Manner.

The Seizure of *Cossimbuzar* in this treacherous Manner, and his subsequent Proceeding, plainly indicated the Subah's Intention was no less than the Attack of the Presidency, and Expulsion of the *English*; for immediate Orders were given to his Generals to march towards *Calcutta*, and his whole Train of Artillery brought into the Field:—The other *Europeans* at *Chandernagore* and *Chinsura* were called upon to assist his Forces in reducing *Calcutta*, and every body at the Durbar forbid to interfere for the *English*.

So uncommonly expeditious were the Subah's Forces in their March down to *Calcutta*, that in about 13 Days after the Surrender of *Cossimbuzar*, they began the Attack of the Presidency itself, having in that Time marched above 160 Miles with a heavy Train of Artillery, in the hottest Season of the Year.

Hostilities began on our Part on the 12th *June*, by spiking up the Cannon at *Tannab's* Fort (a Fortification belonging to the *Moors*, a little below the Town) and endeavouring to beat down the Walls of that Battery, which could not however be effected, on Account of the prodigious Hardness of the *Purca* Work, and the vast Thickness of the Masonry:—While our People were upon this Enterprize, a Party of the Nabob's Troops from *Hughly*, with Five Pieces of Artillery, arrived and obliged our Men to return to their Ships:—A second Attempt was made, Two Days after, to dislodge the *Moors* from that Place, but to no Purpose; the Cannon from our Country Ships employed in the Attack, being too small to make any Impression, or do any Mischief.

Several Letters and Messages passed between the President and *Ceja Wazzed*, in which the latter was desired to use his Influence with the Nabob in our Favour, and authorized to accommodate Matters by giving a Sum of Money, which it was imagined was what the Subah aimed at, according to the Custom of his Predecessor, who had frequently squeezed large Sums from the *Europeans* under various Pretences; but we were disappointed in our Judgment of *Serajah Dowla's* Views, and we quickly found he was too much exasperated to be appeased by the ordinary Method of a Present.

On *Wednesday* the 16th a Firing was heard to the Northward, which proved to be an Attack made upon the Redoubt at *Perrin's* by the Van of the Nabob's Army, who were advanced as far as Mr. *Kelsall's* Garden at *Chitpore*, and were attempting to enter *Calcutta* on that Side, by forcing the Post before mentioned. The Reception they met with at this Redoubt, obliged them to abandon the Design of entering the Town at that Avenue, and we found their Army had wheeled off to the Eastward towards *Dumdumma*, which Side of our Town was quite exposed and defenceless:—It was hoped however, that the Men they lost at *Perrin's* would have cooled their Ardour, and have made the Nabob listen to Terms of Accommodation:—All *Thursday* we were pretty quiet, excepting the Disturbance occasioned by a Band of Robbers attending the Nabob's Camp, who had entered the Town in several Quarters, and plundered every House they came to:—The Enemy had now entirely surrounded the Town, and on *Friday* the 18th *June* in the Morning, attacked the Entrenchments on every Side with the Musqueteers of their Army: They had infinitely the Advantage over us in this Attack, as they could fire upon our Men from the Tops,

Windows and Veranda's of the Houses which stood close to, and overlooked, our Lines and Batteries, by which Means they did a great deal of Mischief, and annoyed our People so terribly, that scarce any Body could venture to raise their Heads above the Cover of the Breast Works, for Fear of being killed or wounded; while, on our Part, we were obliged to spend our Fire at Random, by pointing our Cannon at the Houses they were lodged in, without being certain of their doing Execution, though it is most probable we must have killed many of the Enemy.

The Firing was very hot on both Sides from Eight in the Morning till Noon, when the Enemy slackened, and made almost a total Cessation of the Attack, for what Reason he could not tell: In the Afternoon they began with more Warmth than ever; our People were now extremely fatigued; great Numbers had been killed, and a far greater wounded; the Enemy poured in Multitudes from all Quarters; there seemed no Hopes of defending the Lines under the Disadvantages already mentioned, the Moors having possessed themselves of every Lodgment that commanded the Entrenchment, and in some Places had even penetrated within our Works.—In this Situation of Things, it was judged expedient to spike up all the Cannon at the Façade Batteries, and withdraw the Military and Militia stationed there nearer to the Fort itself, and to abandon the Entrenchment; Orders were issued to the several Posts for that Purpose, and the same put in Execution towards the Close of the Evening.

No sooner was this perceived by the Enemy, than they possessed themselves of our Lines, and turned One of our own 18 Pounders at the Jail Battery against the Fort; but their little Skill in managing Artillery prevented their doing much Damage with their Cannon in any Part of the Siege; and had they used their Musquetry no better, we might have remained very secure within our Walls.—They now brought up a few Pieces of small Cannon to play against the Fort, from a little Battery or Breast Work to the South East; but what annoyed us most of all were the Wall Pieces and long Match Locks, which they fixed upon the Tops of several Houses that entirely overlooked the Fort, and fired such Showers of Balls from them, and that so incessantly, that it became very dangerous to stir from one Part of the Factory to another.—This Evening (the 18th) it was determined to remove our Women on Board the *Doddalay*, and such other Country Ships and Vessels as were in the River: This Embarkation was performed in the Dark of the Evening, but with so little Order, that many of the Ladies (among whom was the Governor's Wife) were left behind, and some of them obliged to remain even till the next Day, for Want of Boats to carry them off.

It is easy to imagine the Consternation and Confusion that was discovered in every Countenance, when it was known the Enemy had in One Day obliged us to abandon those Works on which we placed our principal Dependence, and had flattered ourselves we could have defended till a Reinforcement arrived from *Madras*: The Inability of our Military Officers appeared too evident now to expect much from them; and as the Governor was as little qualified to act in such a Situation as the Officers, it could not but follow, that all Command must have been in a Manner at an End, for Want of a proper Confidence in those who were to be obeyed: This was actually the Case, and from the Time we were confined to the Defence of the Fort itself, nothing was to be seen but Disorder, Riot, and Confusion; every Body was officious in advising, yet no one was properly qualified to give Advice:—The Factory was so crowded with *Portuguese* Women and unnecessary People, that it would have been impossible to have found Provisions enough for One Week, even had our Walls and Garison been able to resist the Efforts of the Enemy. In this Situation it was lucky for us, the Moors (who never

fight in the Night) suspended their Operations as soon as it was dark, and gave us, by that Means, an Opportunity of consulting and debating on what was to be done; the Majority of the Military Officers gave it as their Opinion, that it was impracticable to defend the Fort with so small a Garison, and so unprovided with Stores for a Siege, against the numerous Army of the Enemy; the Artillery Officers reported, we had not Powder and Shot enough for Three Days; our Bombs and Grenadoes were of no Use, the Fuses being spoiled by the Dampness of the Climate, owing to their being filled some Years, and never looked into afterwards.—Thus circumstanced, a Retreat to our Ships was by every Body judged the most eligible Step that could be taken; but the Dispute was, whether that Retreat ought to be made immediately, under Favour of the Night, or deferred till the next Day, and in what Manner to conduct a general Retreat without Confusion or Tumult? It was at last resolved to defer the Retreat till the next Night, and that all the next Day should be employed in embarking the *Portuguese* Women and our most valuable Effects, by which Means we should avoid the Disorder we dreaded:—Had this Plan been strictly adhered to, and rightly executed, a Number of Lives would have been saved, and all those dreadful and melancholy Consequences prevented, which afterwards happened.—Mr. *William Bailie*, One of the Council, who exerted himself upon all Occasions in a most disinterested and generous Manner, undertook to see the Women and Effects sent away, and began the Embarkation of the first early on *Saturday* Morning.—The Enemy renewed their Attack with the Break of the Day, and cannonaded the Fort very briskly from Two or Three different Batteries, besides keeping up a hot Fire from the Tops of the Houses with their Wall Pieces and Shellingeers; the Moors pressed on so close, and in such Multitudes, that it was deemed more prudent to call in all the Out Posts (for we had occupied the Church and a few of the adjacent Houses all the preceding Night) to prevent their being cut off; the Party stationed in Mr. *Crittenden's* House, upon leaving it, set Fire to it, to prevent the Enemy from making a Lodgment there, as it stood within Forty Yards of the Factory Walls; and we had the Satisfaction soon after of seeing the Company's House likewise in Flames (done we imagine by the Enemy) which stood as near the Walls on the other Side.

Unluckily no Orders relating to the intended general Retreat had been published, and as the Resolution of retreating was known by the whole Garison by Report, without the Method which had been planned for putting it in Execution, many of the Inhabitants imagined every Body was to shift for himself, and endeavour to get on Board such Vessel as he conveniently could: Upon this Presumption several left the Factory, and made their Retreat to the Ships; which being observed, they were followed by many others, some of whom had been even present at the Consultation in which the Plan of the Retreat had been settled, but concluding the former Scheme was altered, for Considerations to them unknown, they made the best of their Way to the Ships laying off the Fort; to add to the general Confusion, between Nine and Ten o'Clock the *Doddalay* (on Board of which Ship were Messrs. *M.* and *F.*) weighed her Anchor, and dropt down to *Surman's Garden*, the Captain of her, it seems, being apprehensive of her being burnt by the Fire Arrows, or Rockets, discharged by the Enemy upon the Vessels in the River; no sooner was this perceived, than every Ship and Sloop followed the Example, and weighing their Anchors, left the Station they might have been of the greatest Service in, by affording an Asylum to the Garison at their Retreat. This ill-judged Circumstance occasioned all the Uproar and Misfortunes that followed; for the Moment it was observed, many of the Gentlemen on Shore (who perhaps never dreamt of leaving the Factory till every Body did) immediately



immediately jumped into such Boats as were at the Factory Stairs, and rowed to the Ships; the Manjees and Dandies of the Boats we had secured, seeing the universal Confusion that prevailed; and that the Ships were dropping down the River, thought the Danger much greater than it really was, and began to consult their own Safety, by leaving the Shore and rowing away as fast as they could, either to the Ships or to the other Side of the River, maugre all that could be said or done to prevent them.—Among those who left the Factory in this unaccountable Manner were the Governor, Mr. *Drake*, Mr. *Mackett*, Captain Commandant *Minchin*, and Captain *Grant*:—In less than a Quarter of an Hour those who persevered in defending the Fort found themselves abandoned by all the Seniors of Council, and the principal Military Officers, and had the Mortification likewise to see themselves deprived of the Means of retreating, by the Desertion of the Ships and Boats.—As soon as it was known the Governor had left the Factory, the Gate towards the River was immediately locked, to prevent any further Desertion; and the general Voice of the Garison called for Mr. *Holwell* to take the Charge of their Defence upon him.—A Council being hastily summoned, Mr. *Pearkes*, the Senior then on Shore, waved his Right to the Government in Favour of Mr. *Holwell*, who thereupon acted in all Respects as Commander in Chief, and exerted his utmost to encourage every one. Signals were now thrown out from every Part of the Fort for the Ships to come up again to their Stations, in Hopes they would have reflected (after the first Impulse of their Panic was over) how cruel, as well as shameful, it was to leave their Countrymen to the Mercy of a barbarous Enemy; and for that Reason we made no Doubt they would have attempted to cover the Retreat of those left behind, now they had secured their own; but we deceived ourselves; and there never was a single Effort made, in the Two Days the Fort held out after this Desertion, to send a Boat or Vessel to bring off any Part of the Garison.

All the 19th the Enemy pushed on their Attack with great Vigour, and having possessed themselves of the Church (not Thirty Yards or Forty from the East Curtain of the Fort) they galled the Garison in a terrible Manner, and killed and wounded a prodigious Number: In order to prevent this Havock as much as possible, we got up a Quantity of Broad Cloth in Bales, with which we made Traverries along the Curtains and Bastions; we fixed up likewise some Bales of Cotton against the Parapets (which were very thin, and of Brickwork only) to resist the Cannon Balls, and did every Thing in our Power to baffle their Attempt, and hold out, if possible, till the *Prince George* (a Company's Ship employed in the Country) could drop down low enough to give us an Opportunity of getting on Board.—This Ship had, in the Commencement of Hostilities (on the 16th) been ordered up to *Perrin's*, to assist that Redoubt, in case the Enemy made a Second Attack; but after they wheeled their Army round towards *Dumdumma*, the Party at that Post was withdrawn, as no longer necessary, and the *Prince George* directed to fall down to her Station, opposite the South East Bastion of the Fort:—She was in Sight about Noon of the 19th, and was now the only Glimmering of Hope left us to escape falling into the Hands of the *Moor*s:—Our Situation and Distress was therefore communicated to the Commander of her (*Thomas Hague*) and he positively directed to bring his Ship as near the Fort as he could, without Loss of Time.—These Instructions were transmitted on Board by the Hands of Messrs. *Pearkes* and *Levett*, and we began now to entertain some Expectation of making a general Retreat, notwithstanding what had happened in the Morning; but it was otherwise determined by Providence; for by some strange Fatality the *Prince George* ran aground a little above the Factory (owing to the Pilot's Misconduct, who lost his Presence of Mind) and was never after got off.

The Enemy suspended their Attack as usual when it

grew dark; but the Night was not less dreadful on that Account; the Company's Houle, Mr. *Cruetender's*, Mr. *Nixon's*, Doctor *Knox's*, and the Marine Yard, were now in Flames, and exhibited a Spectacle of unspeakable Terror. We were surrounded on all Sides by the Nabob's Forces, which made a Retreat by Land impracticable; and we had not even the Shadow of a Prospect to effect a Retreat by Water, after the *Prince George's* run aground.

On the first Appearance of Dawn, on the 20th June, the Besiegers renewed their Cannonading—they pushed the Siege this Morning with much more Warmth and Vigour than ever they had done; about Eight o'Clock they attempted to break into the Factory by Means of some Windows in the easterly Curtain, which we had neglected to brick up; while every Body was intent on repelling this Onset, an Alarm was spread, that the Enemy were scaling the North West Bastion; Part of the Garison were thereupon detached to prevent this Attempt, and the hottest Fire ensued for above an Hour, that we had yet seen, on both Sides: The Besiegers at length gave over their Efforts, and retired with great Loss; but they continued to cannonade very briskly from their Batteries, and with their Wall Pieces and Musquetry did us infinite Mischief.

It was now esteemed most eligible to endeavour to pacify the Nabob's Resentment, and supplicate his Forgiveness, by the Mediation of *Monickbund* (his principal Minister) to whom *Omicbund*, by Mr. *Holwell's* Direction, wrote a Letter, requesting him to intercede in our Behalf, and prevail upon *Serajah Dewla* to desist from prosecuting the Attack, and suffer us to carry on our Business as usual, under his Protection: An *Armenian* undertook to carry the Letter to *Monickbund*, and was suffered to pass; but we never received any Answer.

About Noon there was a sudden Cessation of Firing on the Enemy's Part, from whence we conceived some Hopes that *Omicbund's* Letter had been delivered, and was likely to produce the Effects we wished for.—About Four o'Clock a Serjeant, stationed on the Front Gate of the Factory, came to Mr. *Holwell*, and informed him, that One of the Nabob's People had slept into the Street, and with his Hand made Signs for us to desist firing:—This Circumstance gave great Satisfaction, and seemed to promise a favourable End of our Troubles and Distress. Orders were accordingly given for a Suspension of Hostilities on our Part; but in less than Half an Hour Intelligence was brought to Mr. *Holwell*, that the Enemy were crouding in great Numbers under the Walls of the Fort, to the Eastward and Southward, whereupon he hastened up himself to the South East Bastion to view their Motions, directing every one to be at their Quarters: By this Time the Besiegers had been suffered to advance close up to the Foot of the Walls, without a single Musket being fired upon them; and Mr. *Holwell* (still imagining every thing would be compromised) forbid all Acts of Hostility, notwithstanding the Enemy pressed in such Multitudes upon us: By way of Capitulation or Conference he waved a Flag of Truce, which not being understood by the *Moor*s, no regard was paid to it; and while this was transacted to the Eastward, a Body of the Enemy scaled the North West Bastion, as did another Party to the Southward (where the Wall was low) and drove our People from their Stations there.—As soon as this was known a *Dutchman* of the Artillery Company broke open the back Door of the Factory, and with many others attempted to make their Escape that Way.—The Besiegers now poured in great Numbers from all Parts; and Mr. *Holwell*, finding how Things were circumstanced, and how impracticable it would be to drive the Enemy out of the Fort, now that so many had penetrated within the Walls, with the West Gate of it open, and considering that further Opposition would not only be fruitless, but might be attended with bad Consequences to the Garison, he and Captain *Buchanan* delivered

livered up their Swords to a Jemautdar that had scaled the Walls, and seemed to act with some Authority among the *Moors*; this Example was quickly followed by every Body, who threw down their Arms, and by that Act surrendered themselves Prisoners at Discretion. The Factory was in a few Minutes filled with the Enemy, who, without Loss of Time, began plundering every Thing they could get their Hands on; we were rifled of our Watches, Buckles, Buttons, &c. but no further Violence used to our Persons.—The Bales of Broad Cloth, Chefts of Coral, Plate, and Treasure, laying in the Apartments of the Gentlemen who resided in the Factory, were broke open; and the *Moors* were wholly taken up in plundering till the Subah entered the Fort, which was a little after Five in the Afternoon, carried in a kind of Litter, his younger Brother accompanied him in another. *Serajab Dowla* seemed astonished to find so small a Garrison, and immediately enquired for Mr. *Drake*, with whom he appeared much incensed.—Mr. *Holwell* was carried to him with his Hands bound, and upon complaining of that Usage, the Nabob gave Orders for loosing his Hands, and assured him, upon the Faith of a Soldier, that not a Hair of our Heads should be hurt. The Nabob then held a Kind of Durbar in the open Area, sitting in his Litter, where *Kiffindafs* (who had been kept a Prisoner by us during the Siege) was sent for, and publicly presented with a Scerpaw, or honorary Dress. The *Armenians* and *Portuguese* were set at Liberty, and suffered to go to their own Houses. Between Six and Seven *Serajab Dowla* left the Fort, the Charge whereof was given to *Menickbund*, as Governor: They searched every Part of the House, to prevent Treachery; and in the Dusk of the Evening the Mussulmen sung a Thanksgiving to *Allah*, for the Success they had met with.

Hitherto we had fared extremely well; and as we had been left unmolested in our Persons so long, our Apprehensions of ill Usage and Barbarity began to vanish; and we even entertained Hopes, not only of getting our Liberty, but being suffered to re-establish our Affairs, and carry on our Business upon the Terms the Subah had pointed out in the *Mushulka*, Messrs. *Watts* and *Collet* were made to sign: But these Hopes and Expectations were very soon changed into as great a Reverse as human Creatures ever felt; the Circumstance of the Black Hole Affair, with all the Horrors of that Night, are so well known, and so much surpass any Description that Words can paint it in, that I shall say no more upon that Subject, than that a little before Eight we were all of us directed to withdraw, and remain in a Place contiguous to the Black Hole (where our Soldiers were usually confined in the Stocks).—While we were wondering what this should mean, and laughing at the Oddity of it, a Party of Fellows came and ordered us to walk into the Place before mentioned, called the Black Hole, a Room or rather Dungeon, about 18 Feet long, and 14 wide, with only Two Holes, barricaded with Iron Bars, to let in Air, which opened into a low Piazza, where a Guard was set: Into this Hole we were forcibly crammed about Eight o'Clock in the Evening, and the Door immediately locked upon us.—The Number of Souls thrust into this Dungeon were near 150, among which was One Woman, and Twelve of the wounded Officers: The Heat and Stench presently grew intolerable; some of our Company expired very soon after being put in; others grew mad, and having lost their Senses, died in a high Delirium.—All we could urge to the Guard set over us, could not prevail upon them either to set us at Liberty or separate us into different Prisons, which we desired, and offered Money to obtain, but to no Purpose; and when we were released, at Eight o'Clock the next Morning, only 22 came out alive.

The Witness being asked, Whether he remembered the Terms of the *Mushulka*, signed between Mr. *Watts* and the Nabob? he said, To the best of his Remembrance

it was, that we should carry on Trade as other Merchants, and without any Exemption by our Firmament.

Being asked, Whether he had Reason to believe, that any Money or other Present was given or offered by *Kiffindafs* for the Protection given him? he said, He did not know or believe that any Money or Present of any Kind was given by *Kiffindafs*, or any of his Friends, directly or indirectly, to the Governor or any other Member of the Committee: He believed, that Mr. *Drake* really refused to deliver up *Kiffindafs* to the Nabob; and said, that *Omicund* was a Prisoner; but was not sure whether *Kiffindafs* was kept in the Factory against his Consent or not; that the Reason of *Omicund's* being a Prisoner, was, that Mr. *Drake* suspected him of being a Fomentor of the Troubles: That the only Offence with which the Nabob charged *Kiffindafs*, when he demanded him, was only, that he was a Tenant of the Sircar; he did not know of any other Tenant or Officer of the Country Government that was protected at *Calcutta*.

The Witness further said, That he did not believe the Nabob had any Intention of a Massacre when he confined the *English* in the Black Hole; but that his Intention was merely to confine them for the Night, without knowing whether the Prison was great or small; he said, that Mr. *Holwell* was carried to the Nabob after he was released from the Black Hole, and that he heard afterwards, that he and Three or Four other Gentlemen were put in Irons and sent up the Country, and very hardly treated; that those who were not confined with Mr. *Holwell* were set at Liberty; that he never heard the Nabob express the least Concern at the Catastrophe that had happened in the Black Hole, but always understood that he received the Account with total Indifference; he likewise understood, that the Nabob sent for Mr. *Holwell* before him, to discover where the Treasures were, and that he was extremely surprised to find the Treasury so low; there was not above £. 5,000, in the Company's Treasury: That, at the re-taking of *Calcutta*, every Thing found in the Settlement was restored to those who could make out their Claims:—The Army and Navy did not touch any Part of it; what was found was not of great Value; there was a great deal of the Company's Broad Cloth, but very little private Property.

The Witness believed, that upon the Loss of *Calcutta*, there was not a Man who was not ruined, excepting One Gentleman, who had remitted Part of his Fortune Home; and that the Loss of the Company was very great: That it was supposed the Restitution made afterwards was more than equivalent; a great Quantity of the Company's Goods were restored at the Re-capture, both at *Calcutta* and other Places; and whatever came into the Hands of the Sircar was delivered up again.

The Witness being asked, What Answer the *Dutch* and *French* Factories returned to *Serajab Dowla's* Application for Assistance, as mentioned in a former Part of his Evidence? said, He believed they declined to assist him.

*Richard Becher*, Esquire, being again called to inform the Committee, what he knew of the State of the Company's Affairs, after the Taking of *Calcutta*, said, That in the August following he joined the President, and other Gentlemen, at *Palla*, where soon after they had Intelligence that Admiral *Watson*, with Troops from *Madras*, was coming to their Assistance; and when it was judged they might be nearly expected, the Council deputed Mr. *Watts*, himself, and Mr. *Mackett*, to meet the Admiral in *Ballasore* Road; that they met him in the Month of December, he not arriving sooner.

Being asked, By whom *Calcutta* was retaken? he said, That Admiral *Watson*, and the Men of War, proceeded up the River; and that Troops were landed; but whether Admiral *Watson* or the Forces took it, he cannot answer.—That he was on Board a Ship that was following the Squadron, and that the Ships assisted in taking

taking it; and was no Judge whether the Place would ever have been retaken if Admiral *Watson* had not been there; that the Number of Troops landed amounted to 400 or 450 Europeans, and 17 or 1800 *Sepoys*; that the *Moors* left *Calcutta* the Second of *January*, 1757, and that there was no Capitulation.

In Answer to the Question, By whom was *Calcutta* taken Possession of? he replied, It was delivered over by Admiral *Watson* to Mr. *Drake*.

Being asked, Whether he remembered the first Idea of setting up *Meer Jaffer*, and deposing *Syjah Dowla*? he said, He could not be positive; he believed about the Month of *May* 1757.

And being asked, If he recollected what Money was stipulated to be given to the Select Committee, in case that Affair was brought about? he said, That his Situation confined him to *Calcutta* during the Years 1757, 1758, and 1759, and therefore could not give any Answer about Transactions out of *Calcutta*.—That Mr. *Watts*, who was Agent for the Company at *Muxadavad*, wrote Word, that *Meer Jaffer* would make some Consideration to the Navy, Army, and others, who should be instrumental in promoting his Advancement to the Subahship, by way of Donation.—That by others he understood at that Time was Mr. *Watts* himself, who was upon the Spot at *Muxadavad*; and that he could not recollect who was upon the Spot besides.

He said, He was the first Person who mentioned the Reasonableness and Propriety, that the Gentlemen of that Committee, who really felt the whole Machine in Motion, should be likewise considered on that Occasion; and in Consequence, that Mr. *Watts* was wrote to, to the Effect he had mentioned, viz. That as there were to be Donations to the Army, Navy, &c. it was but reasonable the other Gentlemen should be considered: He said, That this Letter does not appear upon the public Proceedings.—That he should conclude, that on the public Service, every Thing was to be entered by the Select Committee; but this Letter was not so considered; the Select Committee consisted of the President, Mr. *Drake*, Colonel *Clive*, Mr. *Watts*, Major *Kilpatrick*, and himself; the Committee was appointed by the Court of Directors, and Colonel *Clive* was taken in as Second.

The Witness further informed Your Committee, That so far from any Sum being stipulated to his Knowledge, he did not know any Thing of the Sum till some Time after *Meer Jaffer* was established in the Subahship.—That some Time after, an Account was sent to the Committee, that *Meer Jaffer*, thought proper to make Presents to some particular Gentlemen, and the Company had wrote Word that they should not interfere in any private Donations from the Nabob to the Company's Servants; that the Sums he knew of were to the Governor 2 Lack and 80,000 Rupees; Colonel *Clive* the same; to the rest of the Gentlemen 2 Lack and 40,000 each.—That he always understood the Admiral was considered, as Commander in Chief of the Navy, in a Sum separate, which he does not know the Amount of; that he esteemed Colonel *Clive* as a Member of the Committee, and did not esteem Admiral *Watson* as belonging to it; he believes one Gentleman of the Council in Bengal (Mr. *Bottom*) did send a small Sum to the Representatives of Admiral *Watson*, but he does not know what it was;—that he knows of no Stipulation for particular Sums, but each of the Council, who were not Members of the Committee, received a Lack of Rupees; they were Six or Seven in Number; an Account was sent in Writing; it was a Letter directed to the Governor; he does not know who it was signed by, but believes by Mr. *Watts*, Colonel *Clive*, and Mr. *Manningham*; he considered it as a private Letter, and therefore apprehends it was not entered—he knows of no other private Donations, but has heard of such; he cannot recollect from whom; and never discoursed with Mr. *Watts* upon the Subject.

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Being questioned, Whether, in the Course of the Negotiation with *Meer Jaffer*, he knew any Thing of Two Treaties of the same Date, one real, and the other fictitious? the Witness said, That he apprehended the only Treaty filed publicly upon the Company's Records; that while this Affair was upon the Anvil, Mr. *Watts* employed a Black Merchant, residing at *Calcutta* (by Name *Omicbund*) who insisted on having no less a Sum than 20 Lack of Rupees from *Meer Jaffer*, in case of Success; that Mr. *Watts* represented to the Gentlemen in *Calcutta*, that *Meer Jaffer* was so averse to the allowing that Sum to *Omicbund*, that he would rather all Treaties should be broke off, than consent to it, or something to that Effect; and further represented, that he himself believed that *Omicbund* was acting a double Part, and would deceive both the *English* and *Jaffer*. In Consequence of these Representations, it was judged by the Gentlemen, that *Omicbund* was no way meriting that Reward, and therefore they did not insist on it, but thought it necessary, for the Security and Safety of the Company, to keep *Omicbund* from the Knowledge of their Sentiments; in Consequence of which Two Papers were transmitted to Mr. *Watts*, in one of which *Omicbund* was mentioned and in the other not; the Design being to prevent the ill Consequences which might have ensued, if *Omicbund* got a Notion that he was not to have the Money.—The Witness believes the Two Papers were signed by Admiral *Watson* and the Gentlemen of the Committee.

Being asked, Whether Admiral *Watson* signed the fictitious Agreement, or whether he, at that Time, heard of Admiral *Watson's* scrupling, or refusing to sign? he said, He thinks the fictitious Treaty was sent to him to be signed, but does not recollect whether that and the other Treaty were transmitted to him by Writing, or by Messenger, or by whom; neither does he know whether he signed it or not, nor does he recollect that he heard of his refusing to sign it.

The Witness further said, in relation to the Transaction with *Omicbund*, That he thinks he heard that *Omicbund* insisted upon the Sum of 5 per Cent. on all the late Nabob's Treasures, exclusive of the Sum of 20 Lack; and threatened to betray the whole Negotiation, if his Demands were not complied with; that Mr. *Watts* represented the Apprehensions he had of his doing so, if he was not kept in the Dark.

The Witness knows of no Letter from Mr. *Watts* saying, He believed the Nabob's Treasures amounted to 40,000,000, and therefore dissuading the Committee from agreeing to give 5 per Cent. upon that Sum, but rather to give a specified Sum.

The Witness being asked, Whether he knew any Thing of the additional Article to the Treaty with *Jaffer Aly Khan*? said, He believed the 13th Article, or something similar, was added; and does not recollect the Circumstances of transmitting the Articles to the Directors.

It is 29 Years since the Witness left *England* in the Company's Service.

The next Witness Your Committee called, was *Francis Sykes*, Esquire; who being requested to inform the Committee what he knew of the Transaction with *Omicbund*, said, That in the Year 1757 he was stationed at the subordinate Factory, called *Cassimbuzer*, in Council; that he does not know particularly the Terms demanded by *Omicbund*; but being on a Visit to Mr. *Watts*, he found him under great Anxiety; that he took him aside, and told him *Omicbund* had been threatening to betray him to *Serajah Dowla*, and would have them all murdered that Night, unless he would give him some Assurances that the Sum promised him (by Mr. *Watts*) should be made good;—that upon this Visit Mr. *Watts* further said, That he was under the greatest Anxiety how to counteract the Designs of *Omicbund*; the Witness could to far say, on his own Part, that *Omicbund's* Conduct in the whole Scene of

that Buñines was always suspected, and that he had Spies upon Mr. *Watts's* Conduct—he apprehends that Nothing was reduced to Paper at that Time; that it was only talked of between *Omicund* and Mr. *Watts*, and believes it was only a verbal Promise; he further said, That *Serajab Doula* was at *Muxadavad* at that Time, and was visited frequently by Mr. *Watts*—that he (the Witness) was in the Service about 20 Years, from 1749 to 1769.

Your Committee next called upon,

Sir *George Pocock*, to state what Circumstances he knew concerning the Attack upon *Chandernagore*:—Who informed Your Committee, That he did not enter the River *Bengal* with Admiral *Watson*, but that the Place surrendered to that Admiral; that it was afterwards garrisoned by Officers and Seamen: And in June a Detachment, of a Lieutenant, 7 Midshipmen, and 50 Private Men, was sent to Lord *Clive*.

The Witness was clearly of Opinion, That the Revolution could not have been brought about without the Assistance of the King's Ships then in the River; he does not recollect the Number of the King's Troops, but thinks there might be about 300.—The Company's Troops assisted in taking the Place.

The Right Honourable Lord *Clive*, being desired to relate to Your Committee what he knew of the Transaction of the above Period, said, That when he returned to *England* in 1755, the first Time, the Court of Directors solicited him to go out again; they obtained for him His Majesty's Commission of Lieutenant Colonel, and appointed him Deputy Governor of *Fort Saint David*, and to succeed to the Government of *Madras*; but before he went to his Government they wished him to undertake an Expedition of great Importance, provided Colonel *Scott* (who had been strongly recommended by the Duke of *Cumberland*) did not chuse to undertake the Expedition himself.—The Intent of the Expedition was to join the *Mlarattas* at *Bombay*, and in Conjunction with them to attack the *French*, in the Subah of the *Decan*; for which he carried out Three Companies of the King's Artillery, and 3 or 400 of the King's Troops. That when he arrived at *Bombay*, in the Beginning of the Year 1756, there was a Truce between the Two Nations, and Colonel *Scott* was dead.—He found there Admiral *Watson* and Sir *George Pocock* with his Squadron.—It was thought advisable that these Troops should not lie idle, and that there was a fair Opportunity of taking *Gherab*, a strong Fort, possessed by an Eastern Prince (*Agieria*) and who, upon all Occasions, very much distressed the Company.—That he commanded the Land Troops on that Expedition; and Mr. *Watson* commanded by Sea.—The Enterprize succeeded, and the Prize Money amounted to £. 150,000. That although he commanded the Land Forces, by Virtue of his Rank, he shared only as a Captain of a Man of War. Admiral *Watson* thought his Case so hard, that he very generously offered to make his Share equal to Sir *George Pocock's*, he thought himself as much obliged to him for the Offer as if he had accepted it, but he declined the Offer.—That after that he went to his Deputy Government at *Fort Saint David*, about April 1756; that in August 1756, he was called from thence to *Madras*, on the News of the Capture of *Calcutta*.—It was long debated by the Council what Force should be sent to retake *Calcutta*, and who should command it; it was decided in his Favour, and the Wish of every Officer that he should go upon that Expedition.

In the Beginning of October the Troops were ready, and there was received on Board Admiral *Watson's* Squadron, and other Transports, about 700 Europeans belonging to the Company, and 1,200 *Sepoys*.—There was likewise a Detachment of 250 of *Adlercron's* Regiment, to serve as Marines.—That they embarked about the 15th of October; and after they had been some Time at Sea, a Council was held on Board Admiral *Watson's* Ship, to settle the Distribution of Prize Money; and

it was proposed that it should be settled upon the same Plan as it was at *Gherab*.—That he objected to it, because he thought it bore too hard upon the Military; and would not consent to a Division of Prize Money upon any other Division than of Two equal Parts, that one Half should go to the Military, and the other to the Navy.—This was agreed to; and they arrived in *Balajore* Road early in December; and it was agreed that the Squadron should go up the River to *Calcutta*; and he looks upon that Attempt to be as daring and meritorious an Attempt as ever was made in His Majesty's Sea Service.—That they met with some slight Obstructions till they approached near *Calcutta*.—When the Squadron came within a few Miles of *Calcutta*, he desired Admiral *Watson* would give Orders for landing the Company's Troops; accordingly they were landed; and at the same Time the Ships went by Water, the Troops went by Land.—The Garrison of *Calcutta*, upon the Approach of the Ships, and of the Land Forces, abandoned the Fort after a few Shot fired by the Squadron, and a few returned by the Fort.—That when he entered the Fort at the Head of the Company's Troops, Captain *Coot* presented to him a Commission from Admiral *Watson*, appointing him Governor of the Fort.—That he denied any Authority Admiral *Watson* had to appoint an inferior Officer in the King's Service Governor of the Fort, and told Captain *Coot*, if he disobeyed his Orders, he would put him under an Arrest.—Captain *Coot* obeyed, and desired Leave to acquaint Admiral *Watson* with these Particulars; upon which Admiral *Watson* sent Captain *Speke* to him, to know by what Authority he took upon himself the Command of that Fort.—He answered, By the Authority of His Majesty's Commission, as Lieutenant Colonel, and being Commander in Chief of the Land Forces.—Captain *Speke* went on Board with that Message; he returned, and brought for Answer, That if he did not abandon the Fort he should be fired out.—In Answer, he said, He could not answer for the Consequences, but that he would not abandon the Fort—upon which Captain *Latham* was sent; and when the Matter was talked over coolly, it was soon settled; for he told Captain *Speke* and Captain *Latham* repeatedly, that if Admiral *Watson* would come and command himself, he had no Manner of Objection.—That Admiral *Watson* did come on Shore; he delivered the Keys of the Garrison into his Hands, and he delivered them to the Governor and Council of *Calcutta*.

His Lordship further said, That he was sent from *Madras* with a Power independent of the Governor and Council of *Calcutta*.—He commanded in *Bengal* as the King's Officer and the Company's both.—The King's Troops, when on Shore, were under him; he was Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in *Bengal*, by a Commission from the Governor and Council of *Madras*, on his setting out on that Expedition.—The Governor and Council of *Madras* looked on the Government of *Bengal* as annihilated.—They thought, if he had not the independent Command, the Governor and Council of *Bengal* would retain the Troops which they thought necessary should return to *Madras*.—He took the Command as a Military Officer.—The Governor and Council of *Calcutta* put their Troops under his Orders.

That when he came to examine into the State of the Fort, he found it was not defensible; it had no Ditch; the Baftions did not deserve the Name of Baftions; the Fort was surrounded by Houses, within 40 Yards of the Walls, which commanded the Fortifications.—That he suggested to the Governor and Council the Necessity of destroying them, and making a Ditch round the Fort without Delay.—That he was convinced that a defensive War would prove destructive.—He desired Admiral *Watson* would land the King's Troops, to reinforce those of the Company.—Great Part of the Forces that went out from *Madras* upon this Expedition

were

were not arrived.—The Admiral landed the King's Forces, amounting to 250 Men; and those, added to the Company's, might make 700 Europeans and 1,200 *Sepeys*.—That with these Troops they took the Field, at about Four Miles from *Calcutta*, and encamped in a strong Situation, and entrenched themselves in Expectation of *Serajab Dowla* and his Army, who were upon their March to *Calcutta*.—*Serajab Dowla*, in a few Days arrived; passed within about Half a Mile of their Camp, and encamped his Army at the Back of *Calcutta*.—At the same Time that he was marching to this Ground, he made Offers of Treaty, and intimated to him by Letters, that he wished to conclude a Peace with the *East India Company*:—He encamped about Six o'Clock in the Evening, at the Back of *Calcutta*.—By this Time, the Terror of his March had frightened away all the Natives, and his Lordship saw, that if something was not done, the Squadron and Land Forces would soon be starved out of the Country.—That he sent Mr. *Walsh* and Mr. *Scrafton* to the Nabob, about Seven that Evening; they returned about Eleven, and assured him, They thought the Nabob was not sincere in his Intentions for Peace, and that he meant Treachery.—That he went immediately on Board Admiral *Watson's* Ship, and represented to him the Necessity of attacking the Nabob without delay; and desired the Assistance of 1, or 500 Sailors to carry the Ammunition, which he assented to: The Sailors were landed about One o'Clock in the Morning, about Two the Troops were under Arms, and about Four they marched to the Attack of the Nabob's Camp.—It was his Intentions to have seized his Cannon, and attacked his Head Quarters; but when Day Light appeared, there arose so thick a Fog, that it was impossible for the Army to see Three Yards before them, which continued till they had marched through the whole Army.—He cannot ascertain the Loss the Enemy suffered, but it was reported very considerable.—Our Loss amounted to about 150 killed and wounded.—That they continued their March to the Fort, where the Troops were allowed an Hour to rest, and ordered back to Camp.—In the Evening *Serajab Dowla* and his Army got to about 8 or 10 Miles from them; he sent a Letter to him and Admiral *Watson*, that he desired to treat with them; upon which it was agreed to receive his Proposals without Delay; and a Treaty was concluded, which is upon the Company's Records.—The Reason that it was not more advantageous than it was, was that they had just received Advice of a War with *France*, and the *French* had within the Garison of *Chandernagore* almost as many Europeans as they had in the Field; and if they had joined *Serajab Dowla* before the Conclusion of the Peace, they must have been undone; for there wanted only some intelligent Person to advise him not to fight at all, and they should have been ruined.—While this Treaty was carrying on, the *French* sent a Deputation to propose Neutrality, it being long debated, whether a Neutrality should be accepted of.—*Serajab Dowla* forbid the *English* to attack the *French*, and declared, if they did, he would become their Enemy.—That he had no Doubt but he would become their Enemy the first Opportunity that offered, and that he meant, with their Assistance, to drive them out of *Bengal*.—He supplied them with Money publicly, and sent 1,500 Men to be ready to give them their Assistance.—During this Time, a Reinforcement of Troops was received from *Bombay*; and it was taken into Consideration by the Committee, whether they should undertake the Attack of *Chandernagore*, at the Risk of displeasing the Nabob, and having his Army to encounter.—That the Members of this Committee were, Mr. *Drake*, Himself, Major *Kilpatrick*, and Mr. *Becher*:—Mr. *Becher* gave his Opinion for a Neutrality, Major *Kilpatrick* for a Neutrality;—his Lordship gave his Opinion for the Attack of the Place; Mr. *Drake* gave an Opinion that Nobody could make

any Thing of: Major *Kilpatrick*, then asked him, Whether he thought the Forces and Squadron could attack *Chandernagore*, and the Nabob's Army at the same Time?—he said, He thought they could; upon which Major *Kilpatrick* desired to withdraw his Opinion, and to be of his Lordship's.—They voted Mr. *Drake's* no Opinion at all; and Major *Kilpatrick* and he, being the Majority, a Letter was wrote to Admiral *Watson*, desiring him to co-operate in the Attack on *Chandernagore*.—The Land Forces marched first, and beset the Place, made themselves Masters of the Out Works, and erected Two Batteries, One about 120 Yards off the Walls, of Six 32 Pounders, and another of Three 32 Pounders, about 150 Yards off the Walls.—By this Time the Squadron came up the River.—That they surmounted Difficulties, which he believed no other Ships could have done; and it is impossible for him to do the Officers of the Squadron Justice: upon that Occasion.—The Place surrendered to them, and it was in a great Measure taken by them; but his Lordship does believe, that the Place would have been taken by the Army, if the Squadron had not come up: It must have fallen into their Hands, but not so soon.—And he must say, That he thinks, if the Land Forces and *Sepeys* could have been landed in *Calcutta*, every Event which has happened, would have happened without the Assistance of the Fleet. That after *Chandernagore* was resolved to be attacked, he repeatedly said to the Committee, as well as to others, That they could not stop there, but must go further: That having established themselves by Force, and not by Consent of the Nabob, he would endeavour by Force to drive them out again.—That they had numberless Proofs of his Intentions; many upon Record; and his Lordship said, He did suggest to Admiral *Watson* and Sir *George Pocock*, as well as to the Committee, the Necessity of a Revolution.—Mr. *Watson* and the Gentlemen of the Committee agreed upon the Necessity of it; and the Management of that Revolution was, with Consent of the Committee, left to Mr. *Watts* and him.—Mr. *Watts* was Resident at *Musadavad*; he corresponded with him in Cypher; and his Lordship sent the Intelligence to the Governor and Committee; and Mr. *Watson* was always consulted, but declined being a Member of that Committee.—Great Dissatisfaction arising among *Serajab Dowla's* Troops, a favourable Opportunity offered, and *Meer Jaffer* was pitched upon to be the Person to place in the Room of *Serajab Dowla*, in Consequence of which, a Treaty was formed, which, amongst others, consisted of the following Articles: That £. 1,20,000 should be given to the Company;—£. 600,000 to the European Sufferers; £. 600,000 to the Navy and Army; about £. 250,000 to the Natives of the Country; and about £. 100,000 to the *Armenians*.—When this was settled, his Lordship remembers, that Mr. *Becher* suggested to the Committee, That he thought that Committee, who managed the great Machine of Government, was intitled to some Consideration, as well as the Navy and Army.—In Consequence of which, Mr. *Watts* was wrote to upon the Subject; but what that Consideration was, he never knew till after the Battle of *Plaffy*; and when he was informed of it by Mr. *Watts*, he thought it too much, and proposed, that the Council should have a Share in it; the Sum received were, he believed, as Mr. *Becher* had stated.—Upon this being known, Mr. *Watson* applied, That he was intitled to a Share in that Money.—He agreed in Opinion with the Gentlemen, when this Application was made: That Mr. *Watson* was not One of the Committee; but at the same Time did Justice to his Services, and proposed to the Gentlemen, to contribute as much as would make his Share equal to the Governor's and his own: About 3 or 4 consented to it, but the rest would not. That he sent the Proportion of the Share he had received.—Some Years ago the Heirs of Admiral *Watson* filed a Bill in Chancery,

wherein it was set forth as a Right; he denied that Right, but never had any Objection to add his Proportion to the rest, if that Claim was withdrawn.—The Money was paid by Installments, in the same Proportion as to the Army and Navy; and he sent his Proportion of the First Installment to Mr. *Poock*, for Admiral *Watson*.—The Law Suit dropt, and he has heard no more of it since.—His Lordship observed, That at that Time, there were no Covenants existing; the Company's Servants were at Liberty to receive Presents; they always had received Presents; and his Idea of Presents is as follows: When Presents are received as the Price of Services to the Nation, to the Company, and to that Prince who bestowed those Presents; when they are not exacted from him by Compulsion; when he is in a State of Independence, and can do with his Money what he pleases; and when they are not received to the Disadvantage of the Company; he holds Presents so received not dishonourable: But when they are received from a dependant Prince; when they are received for no Services whatever; and when they are received not voluntarily; he holds the Receipt of such Presents dishonourable.—He never made the least Secret of the Presents he had received: he acquainted the Court of Directors with it; and they, who are his Masters, and were the only Persons who had a Right to object to his receiving those Presents, approved of it.

His Lordship then read to the Committee the following Extract from a printed Pamphlet, intitled, "A Letter to the Proprietors of the *East India Stock*, from Lord *Clive*," together with Two Letters thereunto annexed.

Every Thing being agreed on between *Meer Jaffer* and the Secret Committee, we marched the Army to meet the Nabob, whom we entirely defeated.—His Death followed soon after, and *Meer Jaffer* was in a few Days in Possession of the Government, and of a Revenue of Three Millions and a Half Sterling per Annum.—The One Half of the Secret Committee being then present at the Capital, and a Report made by the Nabob's Ministers of the State of the Treasury, it was settled, that Half the Sum stipulated by Treaty should be paid in Three Months, and the other Half in Three Years; all conditionally, that we supported him in the Government.—The Nabob then, agreeable to the known and usual Custom of Eastern Princes, made Presents, both to those of his own Court, and to such of the *English*, who by their Rank and Abilities had been instrumental in the happy Success of so hazardous an Enterprize, suitable to the Rank and Dignity of a great Prince.—I was One amongst the many who benefited by his Favour; I never sought to conceal it; but declared publicly, in my Letters to the Secret Committee of the *India* Directors, that the Nabob's Generosity had made my Fortune easy, and that the Company's Welfare was now my only Motive for staying in *India*. What Injustice was this to the Company? They could expect no more than what was stipulated in the Treaty: Or what Injunction was I under to refuse a Present from him, who had the Power to make me one, as the Reward of honourable Services? I know of none; I had surely myself a particular Claim, by having devoted myself to the Company's Military Service, and neglected all Commercial Advantages. What Reason can then be given, or what Pretence could the Company have to expect, that I, after having risked my Life so often in their Service, should deny myself the only honourable Opportunity that ever offered, of acquiring a Fortune without Prejudice to them, who, it is evident, would not have had more for my having had less? When the Company had acquired a Million and a Half Sterling, and a Revenue of near £. 100,000 per Annum, from the Success of their Forces under my Command; when ample Restitution had been made to those whose Fortunes suffered by the Calamity of *Calcutta*; and

when Individuals had, in Consequence of that Success, acquired large Estates; what would the World have said, had I come Home, and rested upon the Generosity of the present Court of Directors?—It is well known to every Gentleman in *Bengal*, that the Honour of my Country, and the Interest of the Company, were the Principles that governed all my Actions; and that, had I only taken the advantageous Opportunities that presented themselves, by my being Commander in Chief, and at the Head of a victorious Army, and what by the Custom of that Country I was intitled to, the Jaghire itself, great as it is, would have been an Object scarce worth my Consideration.

The City of *Muxadavad* is as extensive, populous, and rich, as the City of *London*; with this Difference, that there are Individuals in the first, possessing infinitely greater Property than any in the last City: These, as well as every other Man of Property, made me the greatest Offers (which nevertheless are usual upon such Occasions, and what they expected would have been required) and had I accepted these Offers, I might have been in Possession of Millions, which the present Court of Directors could not have dispossessed me of: But preferring the Reputation of the *English* Nation, the Interest of the Nabob, and the Advantage of the Company, to all pecuniary Considerations, I refused all Offers that were made me, not only then, but to the last Hour of my Continuance in the Company's Service in *Bengal*; and do challenge Friend or Enemy to bring One single Instance of my being influenced by interested Motives to the Company's Disadvantage; or to do any Act that could reflect Dishonour to my Country, or the Company, in any One Action of my Administration, either as Governor or Commanding Officer.—I little expected ever to have had my Conduct impeached, or to have received such Treatment from the Court of Directors, especially after the many public and honourable Testimonies of Approbation I had received.

Copy of Company's Letter to Colonel *Clive*, *March 8*, 1758.

S I R,

Our Sentiments of Gratitude, for the many great Services you have rendered to this Company, together with the Thanks of the General Court, have been hitherto conveyed through the Channel of our General Letters; but the late extraordinary and unexpected Revolution in *Bengal*, in which you had so great a Share of Action, both in the Cabinet and the Field, merits our more particular Regard; and we do accordingly embrace this Opportunity of returning you our most sincere and hearty Thanks for the Zeal, good Conduct, and Intrepidity, which you have so eminently exerted on this glorious Occasion, as well as for the great and solid Advantages resulting therefrom to the *East India* Company: We earnestly wish your Health may permit your Continuance in *India*, for such further Term as will give you an Opportunity of securing the Foundation you have laid; as likewise to give your Assistance in putting the Company's Mercantile and Civil Affairs on a proper and advantageous Footing, upon the Plans now transmitted. For this Purpose, as well as in Consideration of your eminent Services, we have appointed you Governor and President of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, and its Dependencies, in the Manner mentioned in the General Letter, by this Conveyance; to which we have annexed an additional Allowance of £. 1,000 a Year, as a Testimony of our great Regard for you.

Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated *March 8*, 1758.

Paragraph the 23d. In our Letter of the 3d Instant, we lamented the Situation of the many unhappy People who

who had lost their Property on the Capture of *Fort William*, and had no Relief from the Treaty concluded with the late Nabob: In Compassion to their Sufferings, we recommended your applying to him on their Behalf for Relief, if you had the least Probability of succeeding. It is with great Pleasure we find that the late happy Revolution, and your Care, have produced what we had very little Reason to expect from the late Nabob, a Grant from the present Nabob of such large Sums, to make good the Losses of the several Inhabitants, as we are satisfied are much more than sufficient to indemnify them, even with Interest thereon. Although the Nabob gives the Company a Crore of Rupees, yet, when the immense Expence of maintaining the Settlement at *Fulta*, the Military Charges of our Troops from *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay*, and the Hazard those Prefidencies have been expoled to by drawing them off from thence; the Charges of Fortifications and Re-buildings, replacing Stores, Increase of our Garrison, the Loss of a Season's Investments, if not more, and many other obvious Particulars, are taken into the Account, it will appear that the Company will still be considerable Sufferers. It is highly reasonable therefore, if the several Inhabitants are paid out of the Money stipulated in the Treaty with the Nabob for that Purpose, the full Amount of their respective Losses, together with Interest thereon, that all the Surplus should be applied to the Company's Use: We shall expect to hear you have acted in this Manner, and that such Surplus has been accordingly deposited in our Cash; and we direct that you observe this as a Rule for your Conduct in the Distribution of any further Sums of Money on this Account. We do not intend by this to break in upon any Sums of Money which have been given by the Nabob to particular Persons, by Way of Free Gift, or Gratuity, for their Services. It is the Surplus of the Sums we mean, which are agreed to be paid by the Nabob in the 5th, 6th, and 7th Articles of the Treaty with him. It is thought proper here to acquaint you, that such Surplusses, whatever they are, we propose to expend in such Manner, as will tend to the general Utility and Security of the Settlement; they are therefore to be reserved for our farther Orders; and you are hereby directed to transmit us, for our Information, exact Accounts of every Person's Loss, whether *English* or other Inhabitants, on the late Capture of *Fort William*, and what has been paid to each of them in particular, by Way of Indemnification for the same, out of the Monies granted by the Nabob for that Purpose.

As to the fictitious Treaty, Lord *Clive* informed Your Committee, That when Mr. *Watts* had nearly accomplished the Means of carrying that Revolution into Execution, he acquainted him, by Letter, that a fresh Difficulty had started; that *Omicund* had insisted upon 5 per Cent. on all the Nabob's Treasures, and 30 Lack in Money; and threatened, if he did not comply with that Demand, he would immediately acquaint *Serajab Dowlah* with what was going on, and Mr. *Watts* should be put to Death:—That when he received this Advice, he thought Art and Policy warrantable in defeating the Purposes of such a Villain; and that his Lordship himself formed the Plan of the fictitious Treaty, to which the Committee consented; it was sent to Admiral *Watson*, who objected to the signing of it; but to the best of his Remembrance gave the Gentleman who carried it. (Mr. *Lushington*) Leave to sign his Name upon it:—That his Lordship never made any Secret of it; he thinks it warrantable in such a Case, and would do it again a hundred Times: He had no interested Motive in doing it, and did it with a Design of disappointing the Expectations of a rapacious Man:—That he never heard that Mr. *Watts* had made a Promise to *Omicund* of any Money, directly or indirectly:—That when he was last Abroad, he had given the same Account, which is entered in the Public Proceedings:—That *Omicund* was employed only as an Agent to Mr. *Watts*, as having most

Knowledge of *Serajab Dowlah's* Court; and had Commission to deal with 3 or 4. more of the Court:—*Omicund's* only Chance of obtaining Retribution was depending on this Treaty:—He did not believe that *Omicund* was personally known to *Meer Jaffer*, but through Mr. *Watts*.

When the Army marched, *Meer Jaffer* had promised that he and his Son would join them with a large Force at *Cawra*:—When they arrived there, they saw no Appearance of Force to join them; but received Letters from *Meer Jaffer*, informing him, that the Nabob had suspected his Design, and made him swear on the *Koran*, that he would not act against him; and therefore he could not give the promised Assistance; but that when they met *Serajab Dowlah* in the Field, he would then act:—At the same Time *Omicund* received Two or Three Letters from the Nabob's Camp, that the Affair was discovered, and that *Meer Jaffer* and the Nabob were one.—That his Lordship was much puzzled; for he thought it extremely hazardous to pass a River, which is only fordable in one Place, march 150 Miles up the Country, and Risk a Battle, when, if a Defeat ensued, not One Man would have returned to tell it. In this Situation he called a Council of War; and the Question he put was, Whether they should cross the River, and attack *Serajab Dowlah* with their own Force alone, or wait for further Intelligence? Every Member gave their Opinion against the Attack, till they had received further Intelligence, except Captains *Coote* and *Grant*. His Lordship observed, this was the only Council of War that ever he held, and if he had abided by that Council, it would have been the Ruin of the *East India* Company. After about 24 Hours mature Consideration, his Lordship said, He took upon himself to break through the Opinion of the Council, and ordered the Army to cross the River:—He did not recollect any Memorial from Captain *Coote* upon that Occasion, nor was he of Rank sufficient at that Time to have any Influence upon his Conduct; and whatever he did upon that Occasion, he did without receiving Advice from any one.

Lord *Clive* further said, in Explanation of the foregoing Evidence, that *Calcutta* was taken by *Serajab Dowlah* in June 1756, upon the Pretence of a Black Merchant being protected by the *English*: That Mr. *Watts* was Two or Three Months employed in the Negotiation of the Revolution; and the Correspondence was carried on entirely between himself and Mr. *Watts*; that he did not know exactly the Amount of the Treasure of *Serajab Dowlah*, but believed about Three or Four Millions; that the final Terms of the Agreement between *Meer Jaffer* and Mr. *Watts* were not agreed on till a few Days before the March of the Army; that Mr. *Lushington* was the Person who signed Admiral *Watson's* Name, by his Lordship's Order.

*John Walby*, Esquire, being here called to give an Account of what he knew of the fictitious Treaty, said, That he and Mr. *Lushington* went together to *Calcutta*, with the Treaty; a Letter from Colonel *Clive* was carried by him and Mr. *Lushington* from the *French* Gardens, where the Army then lay, to the Committee, and he returned with the Treaties signed in the Evening; that he cannot recollect whether he went to Admiral *Watson*, nor now recollect the whole Transaction:—He only recollects that the Treaties were sent and brought back again: That his Idea has always been, that Mr. *Watson* refused to sign the fictitious Treaty, but permitted Mr. *Lushington* to do it for him: That the fictitious Treaty was called *Isol Coggedge*, from being wrote on red Paper; and he remembered *Omicund* was very earnest in his Enquiry after that particular Paper, after the Nabob was put upon the Mufnud.

Lord *Clive* further acquainted the Committee, That all the Letters in Cypher, which passed between Mr. *Watts* and himself, are not entered in the Country Correspondence, or any where else; that he had got some of the Letters, but did not know whether he had the

Letter wherein Mention is made of Omicbund's Demand of 5 per Cent. on the Treasures, and 30 Lack; that the fictitious Treaty, to the best of his Remembrance, stated 30 Lack and 5 per Cent. upon the Treasures.—It might be 50 Lack for ought he knows:—That he believes the Letter relating to the Donation to the Army and Navy is entered or mentioned in One of his Letters:—He did not recollect what he paid to the Heirs of Admiral *Watson*;—that he wrote to the Secret Committee in *England*, stating Donations to the Navy and Army, but not the Donations to the Committee:—He wrote a private Letter to Mr. *Paine*, then Chairman, in which he mentioned the Donations to the Committee; that he mentioned in his general Letter, that the Nabob's Bounty had made his Fortune easy:—He knew of no Stipulation by Mr. *Watts* for 50 Lack, or any other Sum besides the Donation to the Army and Navy and Select Committee; if there was any such Sum, it was without his Consent or Knowledge.

In regard to the Fate of *Serajab Dowla*, his Lordship said, he had been informed, that he fled and took Shelter in a Fackier's House, whose Nose and Ears he had cut off upon a former Occasion: That there was a Brother of *Meer Jaffer's* at *Rajamaul* (a small Distance from the Place where he took Refuge) that this Fackier sent immediate Notice to him, that he had *Serajab Dowla* in his House, and he should keep him till he could seize him; that the Nabob's Brother immediately set out with a few Attendants, and seized him; and that he was brought from thence to the City, and immediately put to Death by *Meerham*, *Meer Jaffer's* Son; it is said, without the Father's Knowledge; that his Lordship knew nothing of it till the next Day, when the Nabob made him acquainted with it, and apologized for his Conduct, by saying that he had raised a Mutiny among his Troops; and this was all his Lordship knew of the Matter.

Lord *Clive* further said, in regard to the fictitious Treaty, That he did not recollect whether Mr. *Lushington* brought it back with Mr. *Watson's* Name to it; to the best of his Remembrance, Mr. *Lushington* told him, that Admiral *Watson* gave him Leave to sign his Name to the fictitious Treaty; he did not recollect whether Mr. *Watson's* Seal was put to it, but believes that Mr. *Watson's* Name and a Seal were put to both the Treaties before they were dispatched to Mr. *Watts*; he is not certain whether Mr. *Lushington* signed in his Presence at *Calcutta* or the *French Gardens*. *Roy Doulob* did not receive 5 per Cent. on all the Money paid, but on some of it, particularly not on that which was paid to the Army and Navy.—*Roy Doulob* was one of the Nabob's Generals.

His Lordship being asked, What might be the particular Value in Money or Jewels received by him and such other Gentlemen as he may recollect? said, He received about 16 Lack of Rupees clear, after deducting Commission and all other Articles; that he received no Jewels, but all in Money; that he believed Mr. *Watts* might receive altogether about 8 Lack; Mr. *Walsh* about 5; there were 3 or 4 more, but could not recollect the Sums; that he thinks Mr. *Sraffon* had 2 Lack, but is not certain: These Donations were given exclusive of the Sums stipulated for the Gentlemen of the Committee, Council, Army, and Navy: That the Share he received as Commander in Chief, amounted to about 2 Lack; Major *Kilpatrick*, he believed, had about 3 or 4 Lack, exclusive of the Sums stipulated for the Army and Committee; Mr. *Lushington* had something very trifling, about 50,000 Rupees; Captain *Grant* of *Adlercron's* Regiment had One Lack.

His Lordship also said, That these Presents were not paid down at the Time, but by Installments; and in a subsequent Part of his Lordship's Evidence (which is placed here in order to lay the Subject Matter more connectedly before the House) being asked, by what Installments the Presents, over and above those stipulated

for the Army, Navy, Council, and Committee, were paid? he said, That he knew of no Agreement, but they were paid Half down, and Half in about 15 Months, to the best of his Remembrance:—And being further questioned, Whether, when the first Half was paid down, his Lordship had any Expectation of the Remainder? he said, He had, from the Intelligence of Mr. *Watts*, who acquainted him that the Present for his Share would amount to about 20 Lack, but he received only 16. That Lands to the Amount of £. 700,000 a Year were mortgaged for the Payment of the Remainder of the Money stipulated for by Treaty; the Mortgage he believed was made about December 1757, or the January following: That Sir *George Pocock* applied to the Governor and Council by Letter, to desire that they would advance to the Navy their remaining Half of the 50 Lack given to the Navy and Army, desiring that the Governor and Council would make such a Deduction as they thought reasonable for the Risk of advancing the Money:—That some sharp Letters passed upon the Occasion; and to the best of his Remembrance, he was the only Person of that Council who objected to that Request being complied with; and then, after it had been complied with, he made the same Request in Favour of the Army, and not before; that the Money deducted, to the best of his Remembrance, was 5 Lack, the remaining 20 Lack was paid down by the Company for the Navy and Army.

As to the 13th Article of the Treaty with *Meer Jaffer*, his Lordship never recollects till he was last in *India*, that there was a 13th Article, 12 only appearing in the Directors Books; that he saw no more at the *India House* or in Mr. *Sraffon's* Book, and understood that particular Article had been suppressed by Mr. *Vansittart*, in Order, as his Lordship apprehended, that Mr. *Vansittart* might justify his Proceedings in the Second Revolution, as the Company stood bound, by that Article, in Alliance with *Meer Jaffer*; and his Lordship acknowledged writing to the Directors, on the 15th December 1762, that there was no such Article to the best of his Knowledge:—And being asked at what Time it became necessary for Mr. *Vansittart* to suppress the 13th Article? he said, Upon the Affair of the *Dutch*, the Court of Directors enquired whether there was a 13th Article, and Mr. *Vansittart* suppressed it as he supposed.

*John Walsh*, Esquire, being again called upon to explain further the Affair of the 13th Article, said, That it is the only one in the Treaty binding upon the *English*, and the only Thing that could properly have been signed by them; that he imagines the Copy of it was neglected to be taken in the Treaty sent Home; the Treaty without it is inserted in the Select Committee Proceedings as a Translation from the *Persian*, the 12 Articles are all in *Persian*, and only the 13th in *English*. The *English* signed *Persian* Articles as far as 12, which were prefixed to the *English* Articles.

The Witness further said, That some little Time after a Publication of Mr. *Vansittart's*, in which he had treated the 13th Article as never to have subsisted, he had a Conversation with that Gentleman, and at that Time shewed him the Words of that 13th Article; and he confessed his Knowledge, that that Article did subsist:—That he by no Means charged Mr. *Vansittart* with having suppressed that Article, for he believed no Copy of it remained among the Company's Papers at *Calcutta*: That he looked over Lord *Clive's* Papers, and there saw a Copy of the Treaty with the 13th Article, in Mr. *Lushington's* Writing; and that he acquainted Mr. *Rout*, the Deputy Chairman, with the 13th Article.

Mr. *Holt* (from the *East India House*) being called upon to relate what he knew relative to this Treaty, and the Concealment of the 13th Article, said, That Mr. *Gillam*, who had the collecting those Treaties for Parliament, is dead, but that he found a Paper in his Hand Writing containing as follows:

“In the Treaty here referred to, was an Article containing



"aining the Conditions on the Part of the Company; " it was not transmitted from India to the Company, " but is to be found in the 12th Page of the Appendix " to the D. Memorial; and as there is no Reason to " doubt the Authenticity of it, it is subjoined to the " Treaty with the Nabob Meer Jaffer."

The Witness further said, That the Treaty now upon the Table was copied by Mr. Gray, a Clerk in the Office about the Year 1767:—And being asked, Whether the Original, from which it was copied, was lodged among the Company's Papers? he said, That, in the Year 1758, a Treaty, consisting of 12 Articles, and dated 5th of July 1757, was received by the Company in a Letter from the Select Committee at Bengal, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, bearing Date the 14th of July 1757; and the 13th Article was added when the Treaties were called for by the House of Commons in 1767.

The Witness produced the Minutes of the English and Dutch Commissaries in 1762, out of which were read the Entries marked in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 4.

Mr. Walb was then called upon to explain further the Fact, respecting his having found a Copy of the Treaty with Meer Jaffer, wrote in Mr. Lushington's Hand Writing (who was, at the Time of making the Treaty, Secretary to Lord Clive) to which there was a 13th Article, and what he did in Consequence? and said, That he certainly saw among Lord Clive's Papers a Copy of this Treaty, and is very well convinced it was in Mr. Lushington's Hand Writing:—It contained the 13th Article:—That he thought likewise he took a Copy of that 13th Article, and shewed it to the then Chairman and Deputy Chairman, who he believed were Mr. Rous and Mr. Dudley, but was not very clear, he could not say whether this was before the Papers were laid before the House of Commons, nor upon what Occasion he carried it to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman; he believed it was whilst Lord Clive was Abroad, and was certain it was not shewed to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman in their public Capacity.

The Witness further said, That in the Copy in Mr. Lushington's Hand Writing, the 13th Article was by no Means distinguished from the 12 others—it was numbered 13th:—What facilitated him to recollect that, he said, was by having recurred to a Copy in his Hands of that Copy, which he supposed to be Mr. Lushington's.

The Witness being asked, Whether the first Time he saw the 13th Article was the Time when he carried it to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman? he said, He certainly had seen it before; he never had an Idea, but that that Article existed:—He could only speak upon Supposition why it was not transmitted with the other 12 Articles:—The Treaty being sent down to Calcutta to be returned with great Dispatch, it is likely that after the signing, no Copy was taken of it by the Gentlemen at Calcutta, who had the transmitting of these Papers to the Company.

Being asked, Whether he recollected any other Instance of an Instrument of such Importance being delivered over without a Copy taken? he said, He recollected many Instances of Omissions:—And in Answer to Whether he knew how Mr. Lushington came by his Copy? he said, Because he was not so negligent as others; and that he supposed Mr. Lushington took his Copy before it was transmitted to the Nabob:—He believed Lord Clive certainly transmitted to the Company Accounts of that Treaty, but not a Copy.

Being asked, If he recollected from what Paper Lord Clive copied the 13th Article that was sent to Mr. Biddom? he said, He had no Doubt from that Copy which he supposed to be Mr. Lushington's.

Being further questioned as to the Manner of executing these Instruments, and of exchanging them between the contracting Parties; he said, He concluded only One Instrument was signed by the Gentlemen at

Calcutta, which was that delivered to the Nabob; and he imagined that Instrument contained 13 Articles, and that delivered by the Nabob to the Company contained only 12; and that the Instrument containing the 13 Articles was signed by the Company alone, and not by the Nabob; and that of 12 Articles by the Nabob alone. He further said, That he imagined Lord Clive's Letter to the Dutch Governor, respecting the 13th Article, was not entered in the Public Proceedings at Calcutta:—And being asked why not, it being a public Proceeding of a very important Nature? he answered, That all he could say was, that Lord Clive having an independent Command from the Gentlemen of Calcutta, did not in every Circumstance transmit the Particulars of his Proceedings to them; and that in those Times there might have been great Irregularity in the Offices, there being few Servants:—He further said, That he did not know that this Transaction was not entered upon the Books of the Company.

In the Course of the above Proceeding Your Committee read the several Letters, and other Papers, marked in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 5.

The next Witness Your Committee called upon, was

Captain Brereton, who was Lieutenant with Admiral Watson in the *Kent*, in the Year 1757; and being asked, Whether he had heard Admiral Watson make any Declarations concerning the Treaty that was to deceive Omichund? said, That he had often heard the Admiral speak of it; that it was proposed to him to sign a fictitious Treaty to deceive Omichund of 30 Lack, which he refused to do, as dishonourable to him as an Officer, and an Affront to propose it to him: That it was then proposed somebody should sign it for him, which he also refused, and said, He would wash his Hands of it, he would have nothing to do with it, he was a Stranger to Deception, they might do as they pleased.

Being asked, Whether, in the Conversations he had had with the Admiral on that Subject, he had ever heard him say, that he authorized any Person to sign that Treaty for him? the Witness said, He believed not; that he had often heard him say, he had not; and would not authorize any body to do it.

And being further asked, Whether he believed Admiral Watson ever put his Seal to it? he said, He believed not; he was sure he had too good a Heart.

Being further asked, If he knew whether Admiral Watson, before his Death, had ever heard of his Name being put to the fictitious Treaty? he said, He had; it was communicated to him by Captain Martin, on his Death Bed; and that the Secret Committee had agreed to share the 30 Lack, stipulated in the Agreement for Omichund, among themselves, and excluding the Admiral of his Share, because he had not signed the Treaty:—The Admiral said, That he always thought the Transaction dishonourable, and as there was so much Iniquity among Mankind, he did not wish to stay any longer among them; this was just before his Death, which he believed was the 16th of August 1757:—The Witness said, He was not present at this Conversation, but in the next Room; and that it was communicated to him by Captain Martin (who is now dead) the Moment he came out of the Room.

Being asked, If he was sure Admiral Watson did not put his Seal to it? he answered, That he had heard him say so in repeated Conversations:—He further said, That he never heard that Admiral Watson applied to the Select Committee for a Part of this Money; but that after his Death, his Executors did.

Being asked, If he ever heard Admiral Watson mention who was the Person that proposed to him to sign the fictitious Treaty? said, The Admiral did not mention the Gentleman's Name; but said (with a Sneer) it was a Member of the Secret Committee.

As to the Admiral's signing the real Treaty, he never heard him mention it particularly; that he had heard him say he thought it an extraordinary Measure to de-

pose a Man they had so lately made a solemn Treaty with; but that as he was instructed by the King to afford the *East India Company* Assistance in their Affairs, he assisted them with his Forces according to his Duty; and he always understood, from the Admiral's Conversation, that he did sign the real Treaty, but never heard him say whether he approved it or not.

The Witness further said, That he heard of this Treaty immediately after the Attack of *Cutwa*, which was the Beginning of *June*, and before the Battle of *Plaffy*, and it was then talked of, that Admiral *Watson's* Name was put to the fictitious Treaty; that the Admiral was then at *Calcutta*, and that he took to his Bed about the 8th of *August* following, as he believed.—That the Time when Admiral *Watson* made the Declaration “that it was extraordinary to depose the “Nabob” was at Breakfast, about the latter End of *May*, when he gave the Witness Orders to prepare the Men who were to act with the Artillery on Shore; the Men who formed the Detachment upon that Occasion were from the King's Ships, and were sent on Board the *Bridge-water* to *Chandernagore*, to join the Army; and, as the Witness understood, they acted as Artillery during all that Campaign.

The Witness being asked, Whether he was with the Admiral when he first heard the Report of his Name being put to the fictitious Treaty? said, He was every other Day upon Duty with the Admiral, as the Officer who received his Orders; that he never took the Liberty with the Admiral to mention the Report to him, but that he had heard the Admiral say it had been put.

Being asked, Whether, between the Report of the Admiral's Name being put, and his taking to his Bed, was not nearly Two Months, and whether he believed that the first Time the Admiral heard of it was in the Conversation referred to with Captain *Martin*? he said, He believed it was about Two Months, and that the Admiral might know it before that Conversation, but then he was sure he knew it: That it is impossible he can recollect for 15 Years Distance the precise Time of the Conversation, when the Admiral said he knew his Name had been put to the fictitious Treaty.

Being further asked, Whether, when he used the Words of the Admiral, that he declared he always thought the Transaction dishonourable; he meant that it was dishonourable to make a false Treaty to deceive *Omicund*, or to use the Admiral's Hand and Seal to the Treaty when he did not put it himself? he said, He understood it that it was dishonourable to make a false Treaty to deceive *Omicund*.—And being further asked, Whether, before Captain *Martin* communicated the Subject of Admiral *Watson's* Name being put to that Treaty, it was not a Matter of Suspicion only? said, He believed it might.

Being also asked, What he understood the Admiral to mean when he said “he was a Stranger to Deception,” they might do as they pleased?” he said, In the Transaction of the Company's Affairs:—And if he understood Admiral *Watson* to mean by those Words that they might put his Name to the fictitious Treaty if they pleased, he said, He did not; he could not conceive that the Admiral would give his Consent to any Transaction that he held dishonourable, that should insinuate his Approbation of Deception.

In the Course of the above Examination the Witness was questioned as to the following Points, which the Committee referred to the last to avoid Confusion in the State of the Evidence; *viz.* If it had not been for the Assistance of His Majesty's Ships and Troops he thought the *East India Company* could have succeeded in their different Enterprises, and particularly in effecting the Revolution in Favour of *Meer Jaffer*? He believed not.

Whether the Witness was not, at the Time of Admiral *Watson's* Illness, suspended his Majesty's Service? He never was suspended.

By what Accident he became Commanding Officer under the Admiral? Captain *Speke* was wounded in the Attack of *Chandernagore*, the First Lieutenant was killed, the Second Lieutenant was appointed Governor of *Chandernagore* after the Capture, the Third Lieutenant was wounded, and died of his Wounds, the Fourth Lieutenant was wounded and sick ashore, the Witness was Fifth, and then became Commanding Officer.

The next Evidence that relates to the fictitious Treaty, and which your Committee therefore think proper to lay before the House in this Place, is that of

*John Cooke*, Esquire, who was before mentioned to have been Secretary to the Select Committee in *Bengal*, in the Year 1757; and he informed the Committee, that he knew there was such a Treaty: that after the Battle of *Plaffy* he waited upon Admiral *Watson* with a Message from the Select Committee; that amongst other Things this fictitious Treaty was mentioned in Conversation; that the Admiral said he had not signed it (shrugging up his Shoulders) but had left them to do as they pleased, alluding, as the Witness supposed, to Colonel *Crore* and the Select Committee. This Conversation, as the Witness thought, was in *July*, and the Admiral was then in good Health and Spirits.

The Witness further said, That he had no Doubt that the Admiral knew his Name was to it; and he understood, from what dropped from him, that he had secretly permitted his Name to be used; he believed he did not publicly give his Consent, but had known of it, and made no Objection; he did not conceive his Name could have been put without his Permission: The Conversation was only between the Admiral and himself; the Admiral, in that Conversation, certainly did not express any Reluctance or Surprise that his Name was put. And being questioned again, as to the Purport of that Conversation? he said, If he remembered right, when the Circumstance of the fictitious Treaty was mentioned, he shrugged up his Shoulders, and said (laughingly) that he had not signed it, but that he had left it to them to do as they pleased.

Being asked, Whether it was from this Circumstance that he collected the Admiral knew of his Name being put? he said, It was, and from this Circumstance only; And he further said, It gave him no Surprise that an Officer of Admiral *Watson's* Rank had agreed to have his Name put to a Treaty he could not sign, because he was convinced the Admiral knew the Motives for which such a fictitious Treaty was made; and that, though he could not sign it, he had no Objection to *Omicund* being lulled into a Security, and preventing the whole Design from being discovered and defeated.

Being asked, If Admiral *Watson* told him so much? he said, By no Means; these were his Reasons why he was not surprised.—He further said, That the Admiral's Consent to having his Name put to the fictitious Treaty was never communicated to the Select Committee.

As to the real Treaty, the Witness said, He had no Doubt that the Admiral signed it, and if he remembered right, he sealed it; he was sure he signed it, but to the best of his Memory he was not present; but he was certain, because the Treaty was sent down by Mr. *Watts*, for the Admiral and Committee to execute, and then to be returned to him with all imaginable Dispatch; and the Treaty was executed by the Committee and Admiral, and returned accordingly: To the best of his Remembrance he did not see the real Treaty after the Admiral had signed it, but thought he did see it after the Committee had signed it, before it was sent to the Admiral; and that, to the best of his Recollection, there was One Article in that which was returned to *Meer Jaffer*, which was not in the Treaty which *Meer Jaffer* had executed and sent to the Committee, to be kept by them: That it occurs to him the Treaties were in *Persian* and *English*; in one he is sure there were both *Persian* and *English* Articles:—That there was an additional Article in One of the Treaties, which the Committee

mittee and the Admiral signed, and that Article was in *English*; and he believed only One Copy of the Treaty was signed by *Meer Jaffer*, which was left with the Committee, and the other Copy was signed by the Committee and sent to the Nabob; and that he understood the Difference in the Treaties were known, and really thought that a Copy of the Treaty sent to *Meer Jaffer* was kept; he knew no Reason why it was not sent to the Company; he imagined it was:—That he was Secretary, but there were Clerks to make Copies; that it was his Business to give the Clerks Orders what to copy, and to keep the Copies; and that if there had been a Copy, it would naturally have been in the Secretary's Office, under his Management.

The Witnesses being shewn the Proceedings of the Select Committee, 19 May 1757, in which it is ordered, that the Treaty with *Meer Jaffer*, then signed by the Committee and Admiral *Watson*, should be entered after the Proceedings; and being asked, If he apprehended he could have allowed his Clerks to omit entering the 13th Article, when it appeared all the other Articles were entered after the Proceedings? he said, It appeared to him that the Translation entered there was of that Treaty which *Meer Jaffer* signed, in which the additional Article was not inserted—he could account for it no other Way.

Being asked, If that Treaty, signed by *Meer Jaffer*, was in his Custody? he said, It was in the Office.—He further said, The Treaties were sent to Admiral *Watson* immediately after they were signed, and thought only One Part came back to the Office, and the other was immediately dispatched up the Country.

Being asked, How often, in the Course of his Office, he thought he copied the Treaty as it now stands in the Books? he said, He did not know, nor did he think he ever copied it himself.

In regard to Admiral *Watson's* expressing any Displeasure at the Measure taken for deposing *Serajab Dowla*, he recollects no such Conversation, nor did he ever hear he was displeased on that Account.

Sir *Eyre Coote* being called upon to give an Account of the Transactions in Bengal, in the Year 1757, that came within his Knowledge, said, That he was at that Time Captain of the 39th Regiment, doing Duty on Board the Fleet commanded by Admiral *Watson*; that he was a Member of the Council of War, previous to the Battle of *Plassy*, upon the 21st of June 1757; that Colonel *Clive* informed the Council he found he could not depend on *Meer Jaffer* for any thing more than standing neuter, in case the Army came to an Action with the Nabob; that Monsieur *Lau*, with a Body of French, was then within Three Days March of joining the Nabob, whose Army, by the best Intelligence he could get, was about 50,000 Men; and that he called the Council together for their Opinion, whether, in those Circumstances, it would be prudent to come to an immediate Action with the Nabob, or fortify themselves where they were, and remain till the Munsoon was over, and the *Mbarattos* could be brought into the Country to join us; the Question being then put, began with the President and eldest Members, whose Opinions were, Against coming to an immediate Action. For coming to an immediate Action.

Lieut. Col. *Clive*.

Major *James Fitzpatrick*.

Major *Archibald Grant*.

Captain *Frederick Gaupp*.

Captain *Thomas Rumbold*.

Captain *Christian Fischer*.

Captain *Charles Palmer*.

Captain *La Boom*.

Captain *R. Wegener*.

Captain *Cornel*.

Captain Lieut. *William Jennings*.

Capt. Lieut. *Fra<sup>s</sup> Parshaw*.

Captain Lieut. *Mollair*.

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Major *Eyre Coote*.

Captain *Alexander Grant*.

Captain *John Cudmore*.

Captain *Andrew Armstrong*.

Captain *Geo. Muir*.

Captain *Robert Campbell*.

Captain Lieut. *Peter Castairs*.

The Reasons for the Witness's Opinion in this Council were, That having hitherto met with nothing but Success, which had consequently given great Spirits to the Men, any Delay might cast a Damp.—2dly, That the Arrival of Monsieur *Lau* would not only strengthen the Nabob's Army, and add Vigour to their Councils, but likewise weaken our Force considerably, as the Number of Frenchmen we had entered into our Service, after the Capture of *Chandernagore*, would undoubtedly desert to their Countrymen upon every Opportunity.—3dly, The Distance from *Calcutta* was so great, that all Communication from thence would certainly be cut off, and therefore there was no Reason to hope for Supplies, and consequently the Army must be soon reduced to the greatest Distress.—The Witness further said, That if it should be impracticable to come to an immediate Action, his Opinion then was, for returning to *Calcutta*, the Consequence of which must have been Disgrace to the Army, and inevitable Destruction to the Company's Affairs.

The Witness further said, That about an Hour after the Council broke up, Colonel *Clive* informed him, unasked (Captain *Robert Campbell*, to the best of his Recollection, was with him at the Time) that, notwithstanding the Resolution of the Council of War, he intended to march the next Morning, and accordingly gave Orders for the Army to hold themselves in Readiness, leaving a Subaltern Officer's Command in the Fort of *Cutwa*; that the Army consisted of 750 Men in Battalion, including 100 *Tepazzes*, 2,100 *Sepoys*, and 150 Artillery, including 50 Sailors; of these about 150 besides Sailors, might be of the King's Troops.

Sir *Eyre Coote* here read a Description of the Battle of *Plassy*, and was afterwards desired, by the Committee, to give an Account of the Attack upon *Chandernagore*, in order to shew the Difference of Loss when acting against European or Indian Forces; and it appeared, that the Loss was much more considerable at the Attack of *Chandernagore*.

The Witness being asked, Whether, at the Attack of the Nabob's Camp, near *Calcutta*, Lord *Clive's* Secretary, Aid de Camp, and Captain of Grenadiers, were not killed? said, They were, and a great many other Officers, and a great many Men.

Being asked, Whether he presented any Memorial to Lord *Clive* after the Council of War held at *Cutwa*? said, He never did; on the contrary, Lord *Clive* spoke to him first, unasked, of the Army marching, without his having mentioned a Word to him upon the Subject.

Being asked, Whether the Sailors, at the Battle of *Plassy*, belonged to the Company's Ships, or to the Men of War? he said, He believed some were from the Indiamen, but the Officers who commanded them were belonging to the Men of War.—The Garrison of *Chandernagore* was composed intirely of Seamen from the King's Ships; he could not tell whether the Seamen from the Indiamen were not first turned over on Board the King's Ships; but he found a Minute on his Journal, wherein it was agreed, that the Officers and Sailors belonging to the Squadron, which were with the Army on the Expedition to *Muxadawad*, were not to share with the Army in the Prize Money, but with the Navy.

The Witness being desired to give his Opinion, Whether, without the Assistance of the King's Troops and Ships in the whole of the Transactions in 1757, the Enterprizes would have succeeded? he said, He had no Idea that they could.—And whether the Army under Colonel *Clive* alone could have taken *Chandernagore* without the Assistance of the Navy and King's Troops? he said, He thought the Probability was against them.

Several Letters and other Papers relative to the above Transactions were read, for which the House is referred to the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 5.

Lord Clive observed, that in a former Part of his Evidence he had made a Mistake in respect to the Number of the Council of War, who on the 21st of June voted for the immediate Attack of *Serajab Dowla*, and said, he might very easily have been led into that Mistake, the Event having happened 15 Years ago, and he not having consulted a single Record from that Time to this; that although he might have informed Captain *Coste* of his Resolution to attack *Serajab Dowla*, notwithstanding the Opinion of that Council of War, he did imagine that he had not concluded upon the whole Plan till 24 Hours after, because the Troops did not cross the River to make that Attack till the 22d of June in the Evening, and the Discourse between Captain *Coste* and him was the 21st in the Morning.—His Lordship also observed, with regard to another Part of his Evidence, that he certainly should not have declared that Admiral *Watson* had consented to have his Name put to the fictitious Treaty, if he had not understood so from Mr. *Lysington*, but that he would have ordered his Name to be put, whether he had consented or not.

Your Committee take the same Occasion to insert the following Extract of a Letter, which a Member of the Committee informed the Committee he had lately read in Lord Clive's Letter Book, from his Lordship to the Select Committee at Fort St. George, the 12th of September 1757.

"It is with the deepest Concern I acquaint you of "Admiral *Watson's* Death; his Zeal for the Service "of the Company, and the extraordinary Success it "was crowned with, both at *Gheriab* and in this Expedition, will make his Memory, particularly in *India*, survive to latest Ages."

The next Point of Evidence to which Your Committee proceeded, was the Manner in which *Meer Jaffer* gave Lord Clive his Jaghire. And,

*Francis Sykes*, Esquire, a Member of the House, being requested to relate what he knew of that Transaction, informed Your Committee, That he was appointed Resident at the Nabob's Court on the Leave of Absence of Mr. *Hastings*; to the best of his Remembrance it was in June or July 1758; that he was with the Nabob upon Business relative to the Company, when the Nabob speaking to him of Lord Clive's Expedition against the Shawzadda, mentioned the Sense he entertained of Lord Clive's Conduct towards him, and likewise in reducing the Shawzadda to such Necessity as to apply to his Lordship to put him under the *English* Protection:—He mentioned also, that he owed his Government to Colonel Clive before, and this was the Second Time he was indebted to him for it; that he had been a Means of having Honours conferred on Colonel Clive, in creating him an Omrah of the Empire, but that he had given him nothing to support those Honours; he had frequently had it in his Thoughts, but had never entered upon it seriously till now; that he had Thoughts of giving him a Jaghire in the *Patna* Province, but found it would be attended with Inconvenience to the Officers of his Government, and that *Juggusseat* had fallen upon a Method of obviating those Difficulties, by giving him the Quit Rent arising from the Lands ceded to the Company to the Southward of *Calcutta*; that he thought it would interfere the least with his Government, and stood the clearest in relation to the Company's Affairs.

The Witness said, That to the best of his Remembrance he mentioned to the Nabob, that he thought it was a large Sum; but the Nabob told him, that it was very little adequate to the Services he had received from the Colonel, but more especially for his Behaviour upon the Capture of *Munadwand*, when the whole Inhabitants expected to be put under Contribution, and that none of them had experienced a Conduct of that Kind, for that their Persons, as well as their Properties,

were entirely secured to them; that the Nabob also desired at that Meeting, that the Witnesses would acquaint him when he heard of the Colonel's coming down the Country, and in the mean Time he would prepare an Instrument called the Jaghire; that he would give the Colonel the Meeting, and desired the Witness's Attendance at the Time it was to be presented; that the Witness did attend him, in Company with *Juggusseat* and other Persons, and met the Colonel Two Miles to the North of the City, when, after some Conversation betwixt the Nabob and Colonel Clive, the Nabob retired, and *Juggusseat*, in the Presence of the Witness, and he thinks of Mr. *Sraffton*, presented him, from the Nabob, with the Jaghire.

The Witness did not recollect who was present at this Conversation, nor did he take any Notes of it at the Time:—No *English* were present except himself; the Conversation was in the *Moorish* Language, which he thought he understood sufficient for most Conversations.—He further said, He did not acquaint any Person, by Letter or otherwise, about that Time, nor does he know of any Notification given to the Company of this Grant.

Being asked, Whether the Quit Rent, granted by this Jaghire, was not payable by the Company? he said, It was payable by the Company to the Nabob, and he did not know how it was paid after the Grant.—He further said, That he had frequently mentioned this Conversation with the Nabob since he came to *England*, and undoubtedly did the same in *India*; it was a public Act, and he believed was given to Mr. *Hastings* to translate into *English*:—The Amount of the Jaghire was reckoned about £. 30,000 a Year; that he had never any Instructions from Lord Clive, or any other in his Name, directly or indirectly, to apply for this Jaghire, nor did he ever hear, till of late, that Lord Clive ever made Application to the Nabob for this Jaghire; he said, at the same Time, he must undoubtedly have read Lord Clive's Letter to the Proprietors upon that Subject.

Being asked, Whether he concerned the Instrument delivered by *Juggusseat* to Lord Clive to be the Dewan's Sannud, or an Order from the Nabob to the Company to pay the Quit Rent? he said, Whether it was one or the other he could not answer; that he only saw it inclosed in a Silken Bag, and it was not opened at the Time it was presented to Colonel Clive, and he never saw it opened.

For further Letters and Papers relating to the above Transactions, Your Committee refer to the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 7.

Lord Clive, in Evidence to the same Point, informed Your Committee, that the first Letter he ever wrote about a Jaghire, was, to the best of his Remembrance, on the 31st of January 1759, to *Juggusseat*, informing him that the Nabob had made him an Omrah without a Jaghire; in Answer to which, he replied, that the Nabob never granted Jaghires in *Bengal*; that *Orissa* was too poor, but that he might have one in *Babar*; and his Lordship declared, upon his Honour, that he never applied for any Jaghire, directly or indirectly, after that Period; and that when the Nabob presented him the Jaghire (which was near Six Months afterwards) he did not know what that Jaghire was, had not the least Idea of the Amount of it, nor of its being the Quit Rent upon the Company's Lands; and that he did believe the Nabob gave him that Jaghire in Consequence of the Services he had rendered him, which have been stated by Mr. *Sykes*.

That having looked upon the Nabob's Answer as an evasive one; and that he was not inclined to comply with his Request, he never wrote or thought more upon the Subject, until he received a second Letter from *Juggusseat*, in Answer to his first, after the Success against the King's Son, mentioning that the Nabob had turned the Thing in his Mind, and was willing to grant him a Jaghire in *Bengal*; but the Nature of it, where or what Value it was to be, he was entirely ignorant of till

the Patent explained it; *Jugguloot* was a Banker, and a Man of great Influence and Weight with the Nabob.

Your Committee here read a Letter from the *Seats* to Lord *Clive*, received 4 June 1759, which is annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 8.

His Lordship being asked, Whether he received the Benefit of the Jaghire from the Time it was granted? he said, He had received it from July 1759 to this Day.

Being further asked, Whether Application was not made to the Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, for a Grant of Lands, to the Northward of *Calcutta*, to the Amount of £. 12,000 a Year for the Benefit of the Company, and that the Nabob refused this Grant till the Company complied with his Request, to lend him Two Lack of Rupees, and that the Company were also obliged to make Presents to several of the principal Officers about him? he said, It was so; and he believed that Transaction was not above Six, Eight, or Ten, Months after the Battle of *Plassey*.

Being further asked, If he knew that *Meer Jaffer*, about the Time of granting the Jaghire, was surrounded by his Troops, who had mutinied, because he could not pay them? he said, He certainly knew it.—That the Matter of Fact was, there were great Arrears due to the Army by *Serajab Dowla*, as well as by *Meer Jaffer*, amounting to Three or Four Millions Sterling; that it is the Custom of that Country never to pay the Army a Fourth Part of what is promised them, and it is only in Time of Distress they can get paid at all, and for that Reason the Troops always behave so ill.

Being asked, Whether he recollected that, before the Grant of the Jaghire, the Nabob's Jewels, Goods, and Furniture, were publicly sold in order to make good the Money he had agreed by Treaty to pay the Company? he said, He had been informed, that the Nabob's Jewels amounted to near a Million Sterling; about £. 50,000 worth of the worst of them were sent to *Calcutta*, and sold there as Part of the Treaty Money; that some Goods were also to be sold, but the Parties differing as to the Value, the Nabob took the Goods back again, and paid for them in Money.

Being asked, Whether the Nabob had not granted Assignments upon his Revenues, particularly the Revenues of *Burdwan*, for Payment of the Money to the Company, and to the Select Committee, as settled by the Treaty? he said, The Nabob made Assignments of Lands for fulfilling all the Articles of the Treaty, and also for the Committee Money, and that there were other Lands assigned likewise in the Nature of a Mortgage.

His Lordship being asked, On whose Application he was made an Omrah? he said, At *Meer Jaffer's*; but he applied to *Meer Jaffer* to make the Application to the Mogul.

Some Days after this Evidence was given, Lord *Clive* acquainted the Committee, That upon Recollection he finds he was mistaken in the Answer he made to the above Question, and his Answer to it now is, "By *Meer Jaffer's* to the Mogul, and without any Application on his Lordship's Part."

Lord *Clive*, in further Explanation of the Evidence of *Sir Eyre Coote*, stated in a former Part of the Report, went on to relate, that on the 22d June 1759, in the Evening, the Army crossed the River, and marched all Night, amidst incessant Rains, until they reached *Plassey Grove*; and early in the Morning the Army of *Serajab Dowla* attacked them in that Situation.—That as the Description of the Battle had been already given in Part by *Sir Eyre Coote*, he should only observe, that its being attended with so little Bloodshed, arose from Two Causes: First, The Army was sheltered by so high a Bank, that the heavy Artillery of the Enemy could not possibly do them much Mischief;

the other was, That *Serajab Dowla* had not Confidence in his Army, nor his Army any Confidence in him, and therefore they did not do their Duty upon that Occasion.—His Lordship proceeded to relate, that after the Army was routed, *Serajab Dowla*, for the Sake of Expedition, fled to the City upon an Elephant, which he reached that Night, Thirty Miles from the Field of Battle.—That the Troops pursued the routed Army about Nine Miles, to a Place called *Doudpour*; and in the Evening *Meer Jaffer* sent him Word, that he, and many more of the great Officers, and a very considerable Part of the Army, were in Expectation of his Orders.—That he sent *Messrs. Watts* and *Serafton* to wait upon him; and he came to him the next Morning, accompanied by his Son, made many Apologies to him for the Non-performance of his Agreement to join him, and said, His Fate was in his Hands. That he assured *Meer Jaffer* that the English would most religiously perform their Treaty, and advised him to pursue *Serajab Dowla* without Delay, and he would follow with the English Army. That when *Serajab Dowla* arrived at the City, his Palace was full of Treasure; but with all that Treasure, he could not purchase the Confidence of his Army; he was employed in lavishing considerable Sums among his Troops, to engage them to another Battle, but to no Purpose.—About Twelve at Night the fatal News was brought him of *Meer Jaffer's* Arrival at the City, closely followed by the English Army; he then in Despair gave up all for lost, and made his Escape out of one of the Palace Windows, with only Two or Three Attendants, and took Refuge in the Fackier's House, as mentioned in a former Part of this Evidence.

That the English Army having encamped within about Six Miles of *Muxadabad*, his Lordship sent *Messrs. Watts* and *Walsh* to congratulate *Meer Jaffer* upon his Success, and to know the Time when he should enter the City; in Consequence of which, the Day was fixed upon, and he entered the City at the Head of 200 Europeans and 500 *Sepoys*.—That the Inhabitants, who were Spectators upon that Occasion, must have amounted to some hundred Thousands; and if they had had an Inclination to have destroyed the Europeans, they might have done it with Sticks and Stones. On that Day, continued his Lordship, being under no Kind of Restraint, but that of my own Conscience, I might have become too rich for a Subject; but I had fixed upon that Period to accomplish all my Views whatever, and from that Period to this Hour, which is a Space of Fifteen Years, I have not benefited myself directly or indirectly the Value of One Shilling, the Jaghire excepted; I have been placed in great and eminent Stations, surrounded with Temptations; the Civil and Military Power were united in me; a Circumstance which has never happened to any other Man before that Time, or since: The Committee will therefore judge whether I have been moderate or immoderate in the Pursuit of Riches.

Lord *Clive* went on to relate that a few Days after his Arrival at the City, *Meer Jaffer* was placed on the Musket, and proclaimed Nabob of *Bengal, Bahar*, and *Orissa*, and a Day was then fixed upon to consider the State of the Nabob's Treasures, and to see how far he could comply with the Treaty immediately; and that after that State was known, this Matter was left to be decided by the *Seats*, Two Men of immense Wealth, and great Influence, and it was agreed that Half should be paid down, and the other Half in Three Years.—That at this Meeting was *Omicband*; and when the real Treaty came to be read, the Indignation and Resentment expressed in that Man's Countenance bars all Description.—He said, "This cannot be the Treaty, it was a red Treaty that I saw."—That his Lordship replied, "Yes, *Omicband*, but this is a white Treaty."—That this important Business being accomplished, he returned to *Calcutta* with the Army,

Army, and the Nabob soon began to feel his own Greatness, and manifested evident Designs of shaking off all Dependence upon the *English*, and of evading the fulfilling the rest of the Treaty. That he dismissed from his Service those great Men who had been the Instruments of his Greatness, and he put to Death the only Brother of *Serajeb Dowla*.—That as soon as the Rains were over, he took the Field without the Company's Assistance to quash Three Rebellions; but when he came seriously to consider of his Situation, he thought proper to call upon the *English* for their Assistance; and that the Witnesses marched immediately to join him.—That at the City he had a Meeting with the discontented Chiefs, when he engaged to protect them in their Persons, and to use his Influence to get them restored to Favour. That this was easily accomplished, and he then insisted that he should immediately pay down that Part of the Treaty Money, which was then due, and that he should assign over Lands sufficient in Mortgage to secure the rest. That no Difficulty was found in subduing all his Enemies, except *Rannarrain*, who was the Nabob of *Babar*, and at the Head of a great Army, and would not acknowledge *Meer Jaffer* without the *English* Security; which being given, and a Promise made, that he should remain in his Government, he came to the Nabob, and paid his Obedience. That the Country being now just settled, he returned to *Calcutta*, with an Intention to embark for the *Caranick*, and taking the first honourable Opportunity of returning to his native Country; but in the Interim the Ships arrived from *Europe*, which brought out the very strange Appointment of Four Governors, which was called a Rotation Government, because one Governor was only to be as such for Three Months.—He had not the Honour to be appointed one of those Governors.—Upon which, the Gentleman who had that Honour, as well as the rest of the Council, sent him the following Letter.

SIR,

Our most serious Attention has been devoted to the Commands of our honourable Employers *per Hardwick*, naming a Rotation of Governors for the future Management of their Affairs at this Settlement, and having duly weighed the Nature of this Regulation, with all its attending Circumstances, a sincere Conviction of its being, in our present Situation and Circumstances, repugnant to the true Interest of our honourable Masters, and the Welfare of the Settlement in general, obliges us (though with the utmost Respect and Deference) to believe, that had our Employers been apprized of the present State of their Affairs in this Kingdom, they would have placed the Presidentship in some one Person, as the clearest and easiest Method of conducting their Concerns, as well as preserving and maintaining the Weight and Influence the late happy Revolution has given us, with the Soubah of these Provinces, on which Influence, at the present Period, the Interest and Welfare of the Company depends in the highest Degree at this Settlement. The Difficulties we may be liable to by a Rotation in the executive Part of Government, with its Consequences, are sufficiently obvious in our present State of Affairs; we will however mention only a few Points. The Treaty with the Nabob not perfected in all its Branches, the Possessions of the Lands incomplete, the Settlement in no Posture of Defence, the *French* considerably reinforced with Military and a Fleet, their Designs with respect to *Bengal* hitherto unknown, and the Impossibility of impressing a proper Idea of this divided Power in the Minds of the Soubah and others, of this Kingdom, who have, at all Times, been accustomed to the Government of a single Person; a little Reflection will introduce many more, and clearly evince the Necessity of this Address.

The Gentlemen nominated Governors in the honoura-

ble Company's Commands *per Hardwick*, have the highest Sense of Gratitude for the Honour conferred on them by our Employers in their Appointment, but deem themselves in Duty bound at this Juncture of Affairs to wave all personal Honours and Advantages, and declare as their Sentiments, That a Rotation in the executive Part of Government, for the foregoing Reasons, would be extremely prejudicial to the real Interest of the Company; in which Opinion we unanimously concur, and judge it for the Welfare of our honourable Employers, and of the Settlement in general, to deviate in this Instance from the Commands of our honourable Masters, and fix the Presidentship in a single Person, till we hear further from *Europe*.

Your being named as Head of the General Committee (in the Letter of the 3d of *August* last) establishing at that Time, for conducting the Company's Affairs in *Bengal*, your eminent Services, Abilities, and Merit, together with your superior Weight and Influence with the present Soubah and his Officers, are Motives which have great Force with us on this Occasion, and all concur in pointing out you, at the present, best able to render our honourable Employers necessary Service at this Juncture, till they shall make their further Pleasure known by the Appointment of a President for their Affairs here.

These Reasons urge us to make you an Offer of being President of the Company's Affairs in *Bengal*, till a Person is appointed by the honourable Company; and we flatter ourselves you will be induced to accept of our Offer from your wonted Regard to the Interest of our honourable Employers, and Zeal for the Welfare of their Affairs, which we doubt not you are as well as ourselves convinced, will be much prejudiced by a Rotation in the executive Part of Government.

We wait your Reply, and have the Honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient,  
and most humble Servants,

W<sup>m</sup> Watts,  
C. Manningham,  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Becher,  
M. Collet,  
M<sup>r</sup>. Maskett,  
Thos. Boddam.

Fort William,  
26 June, 1758.

Lord Clive said, He did not hesitate one Moment to accept of this Request; and soon after he received his Appointment from the Court of Directors themselves, in Consequence of the Success at *Plassey*. That soon after this Appointment, he took into the most serious Consideration the Situation of Affairs upon the Coast of *Coromandel*: Mr. Lally was arrived with such a Force as threatened not only the Destruction of all the Settlements there, but of all the *East India* Company's Possessions, and nothing saved *Madras* from sharing the Fate of *Fort St. David*, at that Time, but their Want of Money, which gave Time for strengthening and reinforcing the Place. That however at last *Madras* was besieged, and no Words that he can command can do Justice to the gallant Behaviour of Lord Pigot, General Lawrence, Colonel Draper, General Cailaud, Major Brereton, &c.—That he thought it was his Duty to contribute his Mite towards the Destruction of the *French*, and therefore he projected the Scheme of depriving the *French* of the Northern Sircars (whose Revenues were computed to Amount to £. 400,000 a Year) contrary to the Inclinations of his whole Council.—That this Expedition succeeded completely, for the *French* were totally driven out by Colonel Ford, with the Company's Troops, whose Conduct and Gallantry upon that Occasion was equal, if not superior, to any Thing that had happened during the whole Course of the War.—That in the mean Time he was called up the Country with the remaining Part of the Forces left behind, to raise the Siege of *Patna*, which was besieged by the King's Son.—

Son.—The Siege being raised, and the King's Son being drove out of the Country, he returned to his Government in *Calcutta*, where he had been but a very short Time before he received Intelligence that the *Dutch* were forming a great Armament from *Batavia*.—It was thought to be destined for *Bengal*; and it was reported that the Nabob had given them Encouragement to come there; that in the Month of *August* 1759, a *Dutch* Ship arrived in the River full of Troops, which Circumstance brought Matters to a Certainty. And here his Lordship observed will be seen the Use of the double Government; for soon after arrived Six other *Dutch* Ships, having on Board in all 700 *Europeans*, and 800 *Mallays*.—His Lordship said, He was sensible how very critical his Situation was at that Time; that he risked his Life and Fortune in taking upon himself to commence Hostilities against a Nation, with whom we were at Peace; but that he knew the Fate of *Bengal* and of the Company depended upon it, and therefore he ran that Risk; that he called upon the Nabob to fulfil his Agreement, and to order the *Dutch* to leave the River, and if they did not comply with his Orders, he resolved upon his Sanction to attack them: The Seven Ships came within a few Miles of *Calcutta*; and then landed near 700 *Europeans*, and 800 *Mallays*; that he ordered that gallant Officer Colonel *Ford*, who was returned from the Expedition of the *Deccan*, to intercept them in their March to *Chinfura* (the *Dutch* Factory) which he did so effectually that of their 700 *Europeans* not above 14 got to *Chinfura*, the rest were either killed, or taken Prisoners; and this he did with a Force of 300 Men, 800 *Sepoys*, and about 150 of the Nabob's Cavalry; that he ordered at the same Time Three *English* East-Indians, fitted out and manned for the Purpose, under the Command of Captain *Wilson*, to attack the Seven *Dutch* East-Indians; and after an Engagement of Two Hours, they took Six of them, and the Seventh was intercepted by Two of our Ships that laid lower down in the River, and that they took Three Times the Number of Men that our Ships contained.—That after this, Two Treaties were concluded, the one between the *English* East India Company, and the *Dutch* East India Company; where they agreed to pay to the East India Company all the Expenses of that War: With the Nabob they made the other Treaty, by which they agreed never to introduce Forces into his Country without his Consent, and that they would never keep at *Chinfura*, and all their other Settlements together, more than 125 *European* Soldiers. The Witnesses observed, that at this Time by much the greatest Part of his Fortune was in the Hands of the *Dutch*; the Company's Treasury was so full, in Consequence of his Successes, that the Governor and Council declined giving their Servants any Bills in their Favour, and he was reduced to the Necessity of lending his Fortune home by Bills upon the *Dutch*; that these Bills were made payable by Installments, One Third Part every Year, so that he was morally certain that Two Thirds of the Sum lent, which to the best of his Remembrance was about £. 180,000, would remain in the Hands of the *Dutch*, when they heard the News of their ill Success in *Bengal*; but the *Dutch* Company refusing to accept of those Bills in the Manner drawn, and insisting upon a Deduction of near £. 15,000, for prompt Payment, or else refusing to pay them at all; his Attornies thought proper, considering the critical Situation of the Two Nations at that Time, to accept Payment upon those Terms; his Lordship said, That, this Design of the *Dutch* being frustrated, he resigned his Government to Mr. *Hokell*, embarked on board a Ship in *February* 1760, and arrived in *England* in *July*.

His Lordship then read to the Committee the following Minutes of the East India Company.

At a Court of Directors, held on *Wednesday*, *February* 6, 1754, Minutes of the Committee of Correspondence.

dated the 5th Instant, being read, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That a Sword set with Diamonds, to the Value of £. 500, be presented by the Court to Captain *Robert Clive*, as a Token of their Esteem for him; and Sense of his singular Services to the Company upon the Coast of *Coromandel*.

At a General Court, held on *Wednesday* *September* 21 1757, on a Motion, and the Question being put; it was

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this General Court be given to Lieutenant Colonel *Robert Clive*, for his eminent and signal Services to this Company.

At a General Court, held on *Wednesday*, *September* 24 1760, the Chairman from the Court of Directors informed this Court, That such important Services had been rendered to the Company in the *East Indies* by Vice Admiral *Pocock*, and the Colonels *Clive* and *Lawrence*, as appears from the Accounts formerly laid before this Court; and lately received, to demand to the further Marks of the Court's Sense thereof, than had been already expressed, and moving the Court thereupon, it was, on the Question,

*Resolved*, unanimously, That the Thanks of this Court be given to Vice Admiral *Pocock*, Colonel *Robert Clive*, and Colonel *Stringer Lawrence*, for their many eminent and signal Services to this Company.

And another Motion being made;

*Ordered*, That the Chairman and Deputy Chairman wait upon those Gentlemen, and acquaint them with this Mark of this Court's great Regard for their Services.

And another being made, it was, on the Question, *Resolved*, unanimously, That the Chairman and Deputy, when they wait upon Vice Admiral *Pocock*, Colonel *Clive*, and Colonel *Lawrence*, will desire those Gentlemen to give their Consent that their Portraits or Statues be taken, in Order to be placed in some conspicuous Parts of this House, that their eminent and signal Services to this Company may be ever had in Remembrance.

His Lordship likewise read the following Letter:

To *Robert Clive*, Esquire.

SIR,

We have received your several Letters of the 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th Instant, and with great Pleasure observe and congratulate you on the rapid Success therein mentioned.—The Revolution effected by your gallant Conduct, and the Bravery of the Officers and Soldiers under you, is of extraordinary Importance, not only to the Company but to the *British* Nation in general, that we think it incumbent to return you and your Officers our sincere Thanks on Behalf of his *Britannic* Majesty, and the *East India* Company, for your Behaviour on this critical and important Occasion.

Although in your last Letter *Jaffer Ally Khan* is styled Nabob, yet we have not ventured on that Authority to make any public Rejoicings for him, as Subah of these Provinces; we should be glad therefore to be informed in your next Letter, if he has been proclaimed in Form, and is in Possession of the Government. This will very much add to our Satisfaction, and give us a proper Opening to address him as the Subah, proclaim him such in our Town, and salute his Accession.—We have the Honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient,  
and most humble Servants,  
*Cba. Watson,*  
*G. Pocock,*  
*Roger Drake, Junior,*  
*G. Manningham,*  
*Rich<sup>d</sup> Becker.*

*Fort William,*  
*29 June, 1757.*

His Lordship being asked, Whether, from a Review of all the Transactions of the Period when the *Dutch* Armament came to *Bengal* in 1759, he believes they were invited by *Meer Jaffer*, or not?

He said, He had no Proof for what he was going to offer to the Committee, but that he believed, when from political Motives, he found himself obliged to lay the Nabob under Restraints, which were by no Means agreeable to him, that he did by some Means or other, give Encouragement to the *Dutch*, to lend for those Forces; but he believed at the same Time, that after the Services which he had rendered him, by raising the Siege of *Patna*, and when his Life was saved from the Mutiny of his own Army, that he repented of what he had done, for he was down with him at *Calcutta*, to the best of his Remembrance, at the Time the *Dutch* Armament arrived, and seemed very ready to fall into every Measure which he recommended; that however, from his timid Conduct towards the *Dutch*, even at that Time, he was confirmed in his Suspicions of his having given the *Dutch* some such Invitation.

Some Days after this Evidence was given, Lord *Clive* acquainted the Committee, That having recollected an Omission in his Evidence; he desired the following Words to be inserted after his Account of the Transaction with the *Dutch*

"After these Two Treaties were concluded, One  
"between the *English East India* Company,  
"and the *Dutch East India* Company, wherein  
"the *Dutch* acknowledged themselves to have  
"been the Aggressors, and agreed to pay to the  
"*English* Company all the Expenses of the  
"War; We returned to them all their Ships,  
"together with all the Treasure and Effects on  
"Board, amounting by Computation to about  
"Half a Million Sterling."

Being further questioned, Whether, from any subsequent Negotiations of the *Dutch East India* Company, his Lordship was confirmed in the Opinion of *Meer Jaffer's* having encouraged them to come to *Bengal*?

He said, He did believe the Nabob had invited the *Dutch* from this Circumstance; that upon his Return to his Capital, he either paid them a Visit, or received a Visit from them, and treated them with such Civility as served to confirm his Suspicions; that there is Reason to believe that he connived at their raising Troops in the Country; and when he was taxed with it, he pleaded Ignorance.

Being asked, Whether the Nabob's Cavalry had any Share in the Action with the *Dutch*?

He said, They had in the Pursuit, and killed a great many Men.

Whether the *European* Troops in the *Dutch* Service are *Dutchmen*?

They are not; generally speaking they are *Germans*; their Officers were both *French* and *Dutch*; their Commanding Officer was a *Frenchman*.

Being asked, Whether, when he went to raise the Siege, he had any Intercourse with the Nabob?

He said, Certainly; his Son joined him with 8,000 Men; and he thinks it was about *February* or *March* 1759.

Your Committee having closed the Evidence upon the historical Part of the First Period of their Enquiry; in the Opening of the Examination into the Second Period, read the Papers, which are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 9.

Your Committee then called upon Colonel *Calliand*, to give an Account of what he knew of the Transactions preceding the Revolution in 1760, and what induced him to consent to that Revolution. And he informed the Committee, That he was called to *Bengal* in *November* 1759, to take the Command of the Troops in the Room of Lord *Clive*, who intended to return to

*Europe* early the next Season; that he arrived Two Days after the Affair of the *Dutch*, and upon his enquiring the State of Affairs of that Country at that Time, was informed, that the Prince (called the *Shauzadda*) was again preparing to enter the Province of *Babar*, with a large Army, and joined by several *Zemindars* of that Province, who had not taken Part with him the Year before.—That the Nabob of *Purnea* had taken the Field on the Eastern Bank of the *Ganges* about half Way between *Patna* and *Muxadavad*, and his Motives for so doing were thought to be an Inclination of joining the Prince, if a favourable Opportunity offered.—Lord *Clive* judged it therefore expedient that he should march with a Detachment to *Muxadavad*, there to wait his Arrival, and his Orders.—That he set out from *Calcutta* in *December*, with the Detachment of 300 *Europeans*, 50 Artillery, 6 Pieces of Cannon, and a Battalion of *Sepoys*, consisting of about 1000 Men, and arrived at *Muxadavad* about the 26th of *December*.—And that on the 6th of *January*, Lord *Clive* and Colonel *Ford* joined him.—That Lord *Clive* then introduced him to the Nabob, recommended him to his Friendship, and desired he would repose all the Confidence possible in the Witnesses, who was well inclined and attached to his Interest.—That on the 14th of *January*, Lord *Clive* and Colonel *Ford* set out upon their Return; and on the 18th he began his March to *Patna*, joined by the Nabob's Son, at the Head of a large Number of Country Forces.—There was a great many Difficulties in setting out the Expedition; the low State of the Nabob's Treasury obliged him to borrow Money, as he could get it from the Bankers, by mortgaging Countries for it. That about the 30th of *January* he reached a Place, opposite to which the Nabob of *Purnea* was encamped.—He had not declared his Intentions openly; but said, he was ready and willing to obey the Nabob's Orders in every Thing, to pay all the Revenues that were due, and to prove himself a faithful Subject and Servant.—It was necessary to get more than these general Assurances from him; he was at the Head of a large Body of Troops; and as the Affairs of *Patna* were then situated, it was dangerous to leave such a Force in his Rear, without knowing whether he could trust them.—That he endeavoured to settle Matters between him and the Nabob as well as he could; he would accept of no Mediation but his; he would not see the young Nabob, but took his Security, that if he faithfully discharged all the Demands the old Nabob had on him for Revenues due, that he would endeavour to get the Nabob's Consent that he should remain in his Command.—That this kept him Seven Days; and at this Time the Prince was drawing near *Patna*; the Subah of that Province (by Name *Rammarrain*) had a considerable Army under his Command, besides a Battalion of *our Sepoys*, that was left in *Garison* at *Patna* by Lord *Clive*, who joined him upon that Occasion, and he marched out of the City with these Forces.—That the Witnesses repeatedly wrote to him, and pressed him not to come to an Action, but to wait his Arrival, and had no Doubt then of Success against the Prince.—That however he chose to follow his own Advice; he engaged the Prince; Two of his principal Janautars deserted him during the Action; he was totally defeated and severely wounded.—400 of *our Sepoys* marched to his Assistance, when he was surrounded by the Enemy, saved him, and were cut to Pieces themselves, with Three *European* Gentlemen, Two Officers, and One Gentleman a Volunteer.—That the Remainder of the Battalion secured his Retreat into *Patna*, which the *Shauzadda* immediately invested.—That he received the News of his Defeat the 11th of *February*, and marched with all the Expedition in his Power, such as obliged him on the 15th to raise the Siege of *Patna*; and on the 22d the Two Armies met and engaged; the Detail of the Action is very uninteresting: That the young Nabob fol-



lowed quite a contrary Disposition to the one he wanted him to make, but that he saved him in imminent Danger, and the Enemy was totally routed.—That the Infant Engagement was over, the young Nabob retired to his Tent, on Account of the Wounds he had received.—That the Witness requested and conjured him to give him ever so small a Body of Cavalry, and with his *Europeans* and *Sepoys*, fatigued as they were, he would do his best to pursue the Enemy; and clear the Country of them; that he was deaf to all his Entreaties—and his Means of Pursuit, with the Handful of Troops he was at the Head of, fatigued beyond Measure with the forced Marches he had made to raise the Siege, put it quite out of his Power; besides out of the Six Pieces of Cannon which he had in the Field, Four broke down during the Engagement, and some Time was necessary to put those Carriages in Repair.—That at length he persuaded the Nabob to leave the City of *Patna* on the 29th of February, and on the 2d of March he received Advice that the *Shauzadda* (the Prince) was in full March for the Province of *Bengal*.—That he had the Advantage of a Day's March of our Army, with an Army composed almost entirely of Cavalry, unincumbered with Baggage.—That on the 7th he got within 10 Miles of him; he marched off in the Night, and took his Way across the Mountains, to enter the Province of *Bengal* in another Part; a Road through which no Army before had ever marched; but through which however the Witness made a Shift to follow him, and on the 4th of April joined the old Nabob, who was in the Field.—That on the 6th, with their united Armies, they got so near the Prince, that he proposed to the Nabob that he would give him a Body of Cavalry, and some spare Hories to assist him in carrying the *Europeans*, who were exhausted and spent with Fatigue, and he would attack the Prince in his Camp that Night: This he would not comply with, and the next Day he came up however with the Rear of their Army, a River only dividing them; that he again sent repeated Messages to the Nabob, to beg he would only march a Body of Cavalry, to keep the Enemy in play, until he could come up with his Infantry; but this he would never consent to, and the Enemy marched off unmoleted; and in Two Days after took the same Road into the Province of *Babar*: That afraid for the Safety of *Patna*, which he knew was destitute of Troops, he detached Captain *Knox*, with 200 *Europeans*, a Battalion of *Sepoys*, and Two Pieces of Cannon, to march with all the Expedition he possibly could for the Relief of *Patna*, if the Prince should besiege it: He came in Time to save the City; on which the Prince had made Two general Assaults, and was preparing for a Third, when Captain *Knox* arrived with some Part of his Detachment, and obliged him to raise the Siege a Second Time.—That he remained in Camp with the old Nabob, and his Son, until the 16th of May, when again he marched with his Son against the Nabob of *Purnea*, whom the old Nabob had endeavoured to bring back to his Duty, but which the other refused, and would comply with none of his Terms, broke his Promise with the Witness, and was setting out with an Intention of joining the Prince.—On the 22d he again reached *Patna*, and crossed the River there; but before that happened, Captain *Knox*, whom he had ordered to march from *Patna* cross the River, and endeavour to stop the Progress of the Nabob of *Purnea*, so that we might get up with him, had taken a strong and judicious Post, and was attacked by the Nabob's whole Army, and maintained his Post with great Bravery.—That they joined in Pursuit of the Enemy, who was retreating as fast as they could. On the 27th he came up with them; the young Nabob with his Army in the Rear Two Miles; the Cannonading began between the Two Armies; he soon seized their Cannon,

dislodged them from all their Posts, and would have obtained a complete Victory, if Foot could have overtaken Cavalry, of which his Army was chiefly composed; that he had none of his own, and the Nabob would not send him One Horseman: That they continued pursuing the Nabob of *Purnea*, until the 3d of July, they were to have continued their March next Day, when between One and Two o'Clock in the Morning Mr. *Lubington* came into his Tent with a Harcarra (or Messenger) and told him the young Nabob was dead; that it would be difficult to express his Surprise, which was followed by his Enquiries, to know how this Accident had happened, which he was told was by a Flash of Lightning, as he lay on his Bed: In a few Minutes after, his Duan (or Prime Minister) came to the Witness in the greatest Distress, assuring him that if something was not immediately done, the Consequence would be, the Plunder of the Camp, and the Nabob's Troops marching off wherever they thought proper: There was no Way to prevent this Accident, and the Confusion which must follow, but to endeavour to keep his Death a Secret from his Army, that they might gain Time to bring over some of the *Jamaudars* of the greatest Consequence, and attach them to our Interest: That they sent for One or Two of those he thought he could most confide in, told them the Story, and requested them, as a Mark of the Regard they had for their old Master, to continue faithful in the Service of the old Nabob, and to bring over, by Degrees, as many of the other *Jamaudars* as they could, to this way of thinking; that he, on his Part, would use all his Endeavours with the old Nabob, that all the Arrears of Pay, and all the just Demands they might have, should be settled to their Satisfaction: That we then determined, that the Army should march back towards *Patna*; and give out that the young Nabob was ill; this was performed in Seven Days, and during this whole Time, except the People who were entrulled with the Secret, the Army had no knowledge of the young Nabob's Death.—The Witness said, This was the Narrative of his Campaign; that soon after his Arrival at *Patna*, about the 28th or 29th of July, or the Beginning of August, he received Advice of Mr. *Vanvitart's* Arrival at *Calcutta*, as Governor.

Colonel *Caillaud* then read to the Committee the following Letter.

To the honourable J. Z. *Hokwell*, Esquire, President and Governor of *Fort William*.

Camp at *Balkissen's* Gardens,  
29 May 1760.

S I R,

I am honoured this day with your Favour of the 24th Instant. My last Letters of the 2<sup>d</sup>, and those of Yesterday of the 28th, contain all I can urge in favour of our Return to *Patna* with the young Nabob.—You seem also convinced of the Necessity of it since the Receipt of Mr. *Amyatt's* Letters: I shall be glad to find it further confirmed by the Sentiments of the Select Committee.

I am not Master enough of the Subject, to know how the Company's Investment of Salt Petre will be so much hurt this Year, and that you fear, Succours will arrive too late to prevent such Mischiefs; but this I am very confident of, that if we do not send Succours, the whole Province may be lost, and many Years Investments to come.

I will endeavour now, Sir, to reply as fully as I can to the Subject on which you desire so earnestly to know my Sentiments, and hope what I have to say will so fully satisfy you, that I need not at least leave the Army until the Campaign is quite concluded, as I think it cannot be done without Prejudice to our Affairs.

Bad

Bad as the Man may be, whose Cause we now support, I cannot be of Opinion, that we can get rid of him for a better, without running the Risk of much greater Inconveniences attending on such a Change, than those we now labour under.—I presume, the establishing Tranquillity in these Provinces, would restore to us all the Advantages of Trade we could wish for the Profit and Honour of our Employers; and I think we bid fairer to bring that Tranquillity about by our present Influence over the Subah, and by supporting him, than by any Change which can be made.—No new Revolution can take Place without a Certainty of Troubles, and a Revolution will certainly be the Consequence whenever we withdraw our Protection from the Subah.—We cannot in Prudence neither, I believe, leave this Revolution to Chance; we must in some Degree be instrumental to bringing it about; in such a Case, it is very possible we may raise a Man to the Dignity just as unfit to govern, as little to be depended upon, and in short as great a Rogue, as our Nabob; but perhaps not so great a Coward, nor so great a Fool, and of Consequence, much more difficult to manage.—As to the Injustice of supporting this Man on Account of his Cruelties, Oppressions, and his being detested in his Government, I see so little Chance in this blessed Country of finding a Man endued with the opposite Virtues, that I think we may put up with these Vices with which we have no Concern, in other Matters we find him fittest for our Purpose.

As to his Breach of his Treaty, by introducing the *Dutch* last Year, that was never so clearly proved, I believe, but as to admit of some Doubt.—Colonel *Clive*, before he left the Country, seemed satisfied, that what was suspicious in his Conduct in that Affair, proceeded not from actual Guilt, but from the Timidity of his Nature. But if we still suspect him from further Circumstances, we always have it in our Power to put it to the Test at once, by making him act as he ought, whether he will or no.

With regard to drawing our Swords against the lawful Prince of the Country, no Man can more pity his Misfortunes than I have done, nor would any one be more willing and happy to be instrumental in assisting him to recover his just Right.—But such a Plan is not the Thought of a Day, nor the Execution of it the Work of a few Months; there is a powerful Party still remains; the Vizier with the *Mbarattas* and *Jats*, who, notwithstanding the constant Success of *Abdallah* against them, still make head against him, and such are their Resources and their Numbers, that I believe they will at last oblige the *Patans* to leave the Country; for though they cannot bear them fairly out of the Field, they bid fair to starve them out of the Country.

You have no Doubt received Advice from Mr. *Hastings*, that *Abdallah* hath sent Orders to the several Powers, to acknowledge the Prince King of *Indoston*, by the Name of *Shah Allum*; Rupees are struck by his Order at *Banaras* and *Lucknow*, in that Name; Orders are also given to *Shujab Dowlatt*, to accept the Post of Vizier; and our Nabob hath got, it is said, Instructions to acknowledge him, and pay him the Obedience due to the King of Kings, as he is styled.

If we were perfectly sure *Abdallah* would remain, as he says, until he saw the Prince well fixed on the Throne, and the Peace and Tranquillity of the Country restored, we might, I think, all joined together, be a Match for the *Mbarattas*; but we must be well assured, that *Abdallah* will heartily enter, and when entered, will firmly support the Cause; for should this Appointment of his be no more (as it is possible) than a finishing Stroke to end his Expedition with the *Eclat* of having given us a Mogul, and when a certain Number of the Country Powers had entered into the Alliance, he should think of a Return to his own Country, and leave us

to fight it out with the other contending Party, I fear the Vizier and the *Mbarattas* would be too strong for those who remained of the Alliance, supposing them to be the *Ruellabs*, and *Sujab Dowlatt*, and the Nabob of *Bengal*.—However, supposing all this should take Place, why may it not be done with our Nabob in our Hand, still his Friends and his Protectors?

I am this Instant favoured with yours of the 25th, and I find by your Postscript, that your Opinion and mine, with regard to the Prince, do not differ much. I have no Objection to follow the Plan you propose.—Let Mr. *Hastings* found the old Nabob, and I will go to work with the young one, who joins me this Day.

We may continue our March on to *Patna*, the Rains will give us Time to negotiate, to see we go on sure Grounds, and make such a Plan of the Alliance as will do us Honour, and be an Advantage to our Country, and our Employers.—But let us not abandon the Nabob; besides the Reasons I have urged above, One more still remains, which I believe will have some Weight, and make us cautious how we attempt, without very strong and urgent Reasons, any Change in the present System.

You are well acquainted Sir, with the Cause which first gave Rise to the present Share of Influence, which we enjoy in this Part of the Mogul's Empire: A just Repentment for Injuries received, was the First Motive which induced us to make a Trial of our Strength; the Ease with which we succeeded enlarged our Views, and made us cheerfully embrace all Opportunities of increasing that Interest and Influence, both on Account of the Advantages which accrued from it to the honourable Company, as likewise the Hopes that it might in Time prove a Source of Benefit and Riches to our Country; such were, I believe, the Motives of Colonel *Clive's* Actions during his Admittance; such, I believe, were the Views of the honourable Company, when they solicited and obtained Colonel *Cette's* Regiment from the Government; and such, I am certain, is the Plan which the Colonel proposes on his Return to pursue and to support, in Hopes to convince the Ministry, and the Company, as he is convinced himself, that if they please to support his Project, it will prove of the greatest Advantage to the Public.

If I have stated our Situation right, it follows, I believe, of Course, that we are bound with Vigour to work on the same Plan, to act on the same Principles, and to keep up the System as perfect and intire as it was left in our Hands; that whatever Reluctances the Nation or the Company may come to, on Colonel *Clive's* Representations, they may not be disappointed by finding here (at least through our Faults) any very material Change in our Situation, Power, or Credit.

One Word more: All we can wish to do is, not to suffer the Nabob to impose on us, and to check every Beginning of an Independence he may endeavour to assume: Let us consult and improve, on every Occasion that offers, the Honour and Advantage of our Employers, and the Increase of their Trade and Credit; and not let them suffer any additional Expence, on Account of pursuing any Plan, or supporting any System whatever: By acting thus, I think we cannot err; we run at least no Risk, and I believe the Company's Affairs may be conducted by us under this Subah, as much to their Advantage and Credit, as any other, whom a Revolution may place in the Government.

Inclosed, I have the Honour to send Mr. *Amyatt's* last Letter, received this Morning: We have had, as you will see, another Brush with the Prince's Troops, and with great Success; however if the other Plan goes on, we must put an End to this fighting System, and talk coolly on Affairs: I shall expect the Favour of your Opinion with great Impatience, and have the Honour

o assure you, that I am, with perfect Esteem and Respect,

S I R,  
Your most obedient,  
and most humble Servant,

John Caillaud.

The Witnesses being asked, What were his Reasons for approving a Revolution in September 1760, which he seemed to disapprove so strongly by the Letter he had read, dated in May? he said, He would, to the best of his Recollection, declare those Motives, by stating some Particulars of his Situation at that Time in the Country: The Ascendancy which Lord Clive had over the Nabob, which flowed from the Nabob from a Sense of the Favours he had received from Lord Clive, was, very soon after he came to the Command, at an End: That the Witness's constant unwearied Attention, to keep up that Confidence so necessary between them and the Nabob, was prevented by some very untoward Circumstances: Mr. Holwell succeeded Lord Clive in the Chair, only by Virtue of his Rank, in order of Succession; and the Certificate of another Governor being soon appointed, was known to the whole Country; and of Course, that Degree of Respect which the Nabob would have had to a Governor in other Circumstances, was not paid to Mr. Holwell; Mr. Holwell soon saw this, and resented it. The Nabob's exceeding weak and irresolute Character, gave Plenty of Occasions for Mr. Holwell to find Fault, and blame his Measures: That he felt them too, and observed them, but he thought that he did his Duty best as a faithful Servant to the Company, by acting the Part of a Mediator between them, and by softening, rather than irritating, the ill Disposition that subsisted between them. That on this Plan he acted throughout the whole Course of Mr. Holwell's Administration; putting off by Delays, and sometimes with Reasons, every Approach to a Change of System in that Government, which though in his own Heart he adopted, and knew the Necessity of, yet he was desirous to keep it off as long as he could, till the Necessity of it might press so hard as to make it unavoidable: That he thought of nothing but temporary Systems formed to the Day and to the Minute; he would not trust his own Abilities and Judgement, so far as to decide upon what was right or wrong; he knew something was to be done, but how to do it, he really did not know: That when that Letter he read was wrote, the Nabob's Son was then alive; his extraordinary Death made a great Change in the Situation of Affairs in that Country: That Mr. Vansittart's Arrival, and the Confidence he had in his Abilities and Judgment, made him without Reluctance adopt his Plan; he knew his Motives; they were honest and disinterested, as to himself, honourable and advantageous to his Employers, and such as the Necessity of the Times, the particular Situation at Bengal, the general State of the Company's Affairs throughout India, have ever in his Opinion vindicated the Measures pursued.

Being asked, Whether 20 Lack, or any other Sum, was stipulated, for bringing about that Revolution?

He said, The Night that *Cassim Ally Khan* signed the Articles, for accepting the Management of the Affairs of Bengal, under *Jaffier Ally Khan* (in the Presence, as he believed, of Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Sumner, Mr. Holwell, and himself) *Cassim Ally Khan*, after expressing the many Obligations he had for our intended good Offices in this Favour, tendered a Paper to Mr. Vansittart; which, as Mr. Vansittart interpreted to us, contained a Note for 20 Lack of Rupees, payable to the Gentlemen then present; that he don't recollect a Gentleman present there, that did not concur with him, in desiring Mr. Vansittart to return that Paper to *Cassim Ally Khan*; telling him, That he mislooked our Motives for his Advancement. He pressed on Mr. Vansittart

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again the Acceptance of the Paper, telling him, That if we continued to refuse that Favour, he should fear that the Gentlemen present were not well pleased with the Appointment: Mr. Vansittart, who knew his own Motives, as well as those of the Witness, and also of the rest of the Gentlemen in the Committee, told *Cassim Ally Khan*, returning him the Paper again, "When you have paid off all the Arrears due to the Company, to your own Troops, that the Peace of this Country is settled, and that your own Treasury is full; if then you think proper to make us any Acknowledgement for the Services now done you, we shall not then be unwilling to accept such Marks as you will be pleased to give us of your Friendship." The Witness said, That the Affair ended there; and he declared solemnly upon his Honour, there was no Stipulations made, no Partition Treaty, or any Thing of the Kind mentioned, then or after, to his Knowledge, of that Transaction.

The Witness added, That he was now ready and willing to declare, what he received upon the Occasion, when he received it, and how he received it; he said, He little expected after 13 Years Service in that Country, and 9 of them in the Field, that the little Fortune he made, should become the Object of so public an Enquiry; but he was happy to meet this Enquiry more than Half Way, and the more so in this particular Point; as perhaps it may give him an Opportunity of doing Justice to the Memory of the Man from whom he received it (Mr. Vansittart) who did it in his usual generous and handsome Way: so that he knows not but to this Minute, the Sum he received may be charged to his Account. After *Cassim Ally Khan* was placed in the Government, he went up to the Army at *Patna*, came down again, embarked for the Coast; in January 1761, remained there a Year and an Half, and came back to *Calcutta*, called there upon extraordinary Business. In October 1762, Mr. Vansittart then going up to *Mungeer*, told him, "If I am happy enough to settle with the Nabob the unfortunate Differences that have subsisted between him and my Council, and that I can with Propriety remind him of the Services you jointly did him; I shall certainly endeavour to serve you." Mr. Vansittart went up to *Mungeer* and he embarked on board a Ship for Europe. In the Year 1763, he received an Account current from Mr. Vansittart, in which he found Credit for 2 Lack of Rupees, unlooked as he had mentioned before, and much beyond his Expectations; and this upon his Honour was the whole of what he received directly or indirectly upon that Occasion; so little was Money his Object or Thought, that he never enquired or knew what others might have got upon the same Occasion; and that if Money had been his Object, he should have been more curious in his Enquiries: It is not stated in the Account from Mr. Vansittart, from whom the 2 Lack came, but he supposed it to come from *Cassim*.

Being asked, Who took Possession of the House and Effects of *Meer Jaffier*?

He said, *Cassim Ally Khan*, after *Jaffier* had taken out every Thing that he wanted.

Being asked, When the Resolution was taken of making *Cassim Ally Khan* Nabob, in the Room of *Meer Jaffier*?

He said, In the Accounts read of that Transaction, it appears, that *Meer Jaffier*, rather than consent to the Terms proposed, sent for *Meer Cassim*, and gave up the Government to him immediately.

Being asked, Whether Mr. Holwell made any Report to the Select Committee, that *Cassim Ally Khan* had proposed to take off the Nabob?

He said, He never heard of such Proposal, Mr. Holwell never reported to them, that such a Proposal had been made to him.

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The Bengal Proceedings relating to Colonel Calhau, and the Opinion of the Court of Directors upon the same Subject, were read, and are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 10.

A Member of the House being present, desired to acquaint the Committee, That he was Chairman of the *East India Company* at that Time, and was the principal Cause of Colonel Calhau's coming Home, in order to do Justice to a Character he entertained a high Opinion of; that the Court of Directors entered into a minute Enquiry, when he was unanimously acquitted, and was returned to *India*, with higher Honours.

*William Brightwell Sumner*, Esquire, being called upon by the Committee, to state his Reasons for assisting, as a Select Committee Man, to the Measure of deposing *Meer Jaffer*, and placing *Cassim Ally Khan* on the Musnud?—said, That without insisting on the public Breach of Treaty on the Part of *Meer Jaffer*, in the Instance of the *Dutch* Invasion, and the many other doubtful Parts of his Conduct, the Irregularities of his private Life, or the Cruelties with which he was charged, he would rest the Reasons for his Conduct on the Necessity of the Reformation, from the extreme Difficulties and imminent Dangers the Affairs of the Company, as well as those of the State, were reduced to by the Jealousies, Indolence, and Inactivity, of the Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, and the Mal-administration and Corruption of his Ministers, in the Collection and Dissipation of the Revenues, and adding to these, the intestine Troubles through the whole Country; the Witness was of Opinion, and still continued firm in the same, that it would have been impossible to have supported the System of Government then established Two Months longer, and that embarked as we were with *Meer Jaffer*, we must inevitably have shared in his Ruin.

For the Difficulties and Distresses of the Presidency, and the Opinions formed thereon, while these were strong in View and immediate Conclusions were necessary, the Witness referred to the public Records, which, he said, fully evinced the Necessity of the Measures pursued, but he wished to have it understood, that when the Committee first entered into Negotiation with *Meer Cassim*, their only Idea was Reformation in the Ministry, not a Revolution in the Government; and that it was the unexpected Obstinacy of *Meer Jaffer* alone, not an original Design in the Committee, that placed *Meer Cassim* on the Musnud; that he believed, it was a Circumstance as little thought of by *Mr. Vansittart*, as by himself, when he left *Calcutta*, on his Visit to the Nabob, for the Purpose of these Reforms; but he readily admitted the Necessity of the subsequent Change made by *Mr. Vansittart*, as pointed out by him in his Narrative; every Part of which, from his intimate Knowledge of the Man, he gave the fullest Credit to.—The Witness repeated, That he was, and still remained of Opinion, that the Destruction of *Meer Jaffer's* Government made the intended Reformation necessary, and that having gone such Lengths, there was no room for receding; and that on the Whole, he flattered himself, when all Matters were duly weighed, his Conduct would stand justified in the Opinion of every candid and impartial Man, whether he was considered as a Subject of this Kingdom, or as an immediate Servant of the Company.

The Witness being desired to inform the Committee, Whether the Invitation which *Meer Jaffer* was supposed to give to the *Dutch*, was ever more than Suspicion?—he said, It was so far proved by a Letter or Letters, found in his Cabinet after he left *Munadavad*, wrote by the *Dutch* Governor to him, on the Subject of that Invasion: That he could not recollect the Purpose of them precisely, but they were full Conviction to him; they were not entered upon the public Proceedings; and he does not recollect, that the Committee made any Remonstrance or Memorial to *Meer Jaffer*,

upon the Subject of their Suspicions with respect to the *Dutch*, nor to his Knowledge did *Meer Jaffer* ever acknowledge such Transaction.

The Witness read from a printed Book, the Translations of the following Letters from *Mr. Bisdam*, Director of *Chinjura*, to the Nabob *Jaffer Ally Khan*, a d which he recollected to be those mentioned above.

#### LETTER I.

Our Settlement was established here long before the *English* and other Nations entered this Kingdom, of which we were Eye Witnesses: Our Power was then greater as well as our Trade, but now we perceive, that both our Power, Interest, and Wealth, are lost, whilst that of other Nations daily increase: In this Case, what Resource have we left? Our Dishonour and Shame is almost inevitable.

For this Reason, and for the Security of our Possessions, as well as for the Service of your Excellency, I have sent for Troops into this Country: You are our Master and Sovereign; and therefore I hope for your Protection, and wait your Orders to bring our Troops to this Place.

God grant that your Riches may daily increase.

#### LETTER II.

As our Nation has always been encouraged by the Favour of your Excellency, and more particularly from that Time, when having a favourable Regard to our Company's Business, you repeatedly assured our Chief of *Cossimbuzar*, of your Attachment; considering these Circumstances, I was extremely surprised, that your Excellency, during your Residence at *Calcutta*, entered into an Agreement, that you would strengthen the Fort of *Muba Tanna*, in order to prevent the *Dutch* Troops from coming this Way; and also gave a Note to the *English*, directing them to oppose the coming up of our Army.—All these Things considered, it seems plain to us, that your Excellency did not enter into the Agreement, or gave this Order from any ill Opinion of us; but it is all to be imputed to the overbearing Spirit of the *English*: But if any one enters into an Agreement through Force or Distress, and afterwards does not abide by it, he will stand justified by the Laws of God and Man; particularly the Governor of a Kingdom, who wishes for nothing else but the Good of his Country, and the Prosperity of his People.

I am therefore in Hopes, through your Justice and Favour, that you will recede from your Agreements and Order, and that we shall obtain an Order from your Excellency, for the bringing up of our Army; and also, that a positive Order may be given to the *English*, on no Account to molest them, for we sent for the said Army to this Country, in Consequence of your Directions.

The King's Revenues are greatly detrimented, and the Country almost ruined, and of this you can only look upon the *English* as the sole Cause. Our Nation formerly brought considerable Sums of Money into this Kingdom, and did not carry out any, and now the *English* are so powerful, that no Trade can be carried on by us, for which Reason no Money now arrives, and the *English* yearly remit considerable Sums: By this Means the Revenues of the Country are greatly decreased; and therefore how will you be able, without great Difficulty, to maintain your Forces? and when your Enemies come upon you, you will not then be capable of opposing them:—This Time if you will favour the Company, they will ever be at your Command; and your present Anxiety and Uneasiness may be removed:—Your Excellency cannot take a better Step, and I hope you will take this into your favourable and serious Consideration, and return me a proper Answer.

#### LETTER

LETTER III.

The wrathful Letter you wrote to me I have received, and it has given me inexpressible Uneasiness:—The Troops were not called here at my own Desire, nor did I imagine they would ever have come to Action, and fully intended to have returned them by the Ships when they failed for Europe:—They were brought here for the Security of the Ships: This I acquainted your Excellency of several Times.—During their Stay in Camp they molested no Man, nor had any Disturbances with the Country People; this also you are well assured of.—It was never my Intention they should fight; but the *English* hoisted *Moor* Colours, and immediately came down upon them, and a Battle ensued. Your Excellency is the Magistrate of Justice, and therefore I desire you will interfere.—I was desirous that some Advantage should arise to the Riots from the Sale of the Goods when they were brought up, and intended to have laden on board the Ships the Salt Petre and other Goods that were bought, and with the People that came here, dispatched them to Europe; but the *English* would not permit the Boats to pass:—I am willing to act up to our Agreement, and hope your Excellency will adhere to it also: In this we entirely depend on your Favour. The Company have for a long Time carried on Trade here; and therefore earnestly desire you will continue to them your Favour and Protection, as we are not able of ourselves to root out our Enemies.

The Witness further said, There were several other Letters shewn him by Mr. *Vanfittart*, but does not know they were ever acknowledged by *Meer Jaffer*, and believes they were never shewn to him; and he does not know whether these Letters were signed; but they were sealed on the Cover; and he was convinced they were wrote by the *Dutch* Governor.

Being asked, What he apprehended to be the Reason that these Letters were not shewn to the Select Committee, and transmitted as Part of their Proceedings? he said, He believed they were shewn to every one of the Committee separately; that he could assign no certain Reason for the Conduct of Mr. *Vanfittart*, but supposes he did not think them of Consequence to be shewn to the Committee in their collective Capacity.

Being asked, Whether there were any Hostilities between the Two Companies, previous to the *Dutch* Fleet coming into the River? he said, There were no Hostilities; some Disagreements there had always been on commercial Transactions, which were generally accommodated.

The Witness further said, in Answer to other Questions, That he certainly thought the Nabob was bound by the Second Article of the Treaty, to prevent any Ships or Troops of the *Dutch* coming into Bengal; and that certainly the *Dutch* would have acted as our Enemies, had they been permitted to introduce 7 or 800 *Europeans*: That he apprehends the Strength of the *Dutch* in all their Factories before this Operation, amounted to about 150 Military Men: That a Correspondence had passed between the *English* and *Dutch* upon that Transaction: He could not recollect exactly their public Profections, but had no Doubt of their Intentions.

The Witness further said, That he was a Member of the Select Committee from the Time of Lord *Clyde's* Departure to the Period of the Revolution; that he did not recollect they had any Meetings as a Select Committee upon that Subject, the whole being carried on in the Correspondence between General *Callaud* and Mr. *Holwell*.

He further said, That he was one of the Select Committee present when *Coffin Ally Khan* made the Offer of 20 Lack to the Governor and Council; and that he confirmed every Part of General *Callaud's* Evidence upon that Occasion, with this Difference, that when the Paper was returned, Mr. *Vanfittart* observed that we were labouring for the Peace and Safety of the Country; that the Exigencies of the State were pressing, and

that we would not on any Account receive this Offer; but that if, when the Country was settled, he found himself in a Situation so to do with Convenience to his Affairs, he would then be at full Liberty to gratify his Friends as he thought proper: And Mr. *Vanfittart* further added, "I will, for my Part, under such Circumstances, freely accept any Token of your Regard; and "I should suppose the other Gentlemen will do the same." That Mr. *Vanfittart* then returned the Paper to *Coffin Ally Khan*, who seemed uneasy, and said, He apprehended we were not so much his Friends as he wished:—That Mr. *Vanfittart* then gave him the strongest Assurance of our Sincerity, and took the Opportunity to press a Donation from him of 5 Lack of Rupees to the Company, as a Help towards the Reduction of *Pondicherry*; this was granted, and was paid the very first Money—to the best of the Witness's Recollection, a very few Weeks after the Transaction.

The Witness being further questioned, said, That he knew of no Acknowledgement made to the Governor and Council, as a Body, after *Coffin Ally Khan* was placed on the Mulfud; but that as to himself, as in the Course of his Evidence, he should have Occasion to mention his Dismissal from the Company's Service, a Circumstance, which if not explained might leave an Impression of Culprability on his Part, he begged Leave to inform the Committee, that the Cause of his Dismissal was, his having signed a Letter to the Court of Directors, as one of their Council, among many others, wherein they expostulated on what they thought harsh and undesired Treatment; that this Letter gave the Directors such Umbrage, that every Man in India, who had signed it, was immediately dismissed, without the least Regard to the Merits or Length of their Services; that he states this as the sole Cause of his Dismissal; and in Proof thereof, referred to the several Papers annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 11.

The Witness observed, that the Change of Government in Favour of *Coffin Ally Khan*, took Place in October 1760; and said, That several Months after his Establishment, *Ceja Purrut*, the Nabob's Agent in Calcutta, presented him, in the Name of the Nabob, with 80,000 *Sicca* Rupees (£. 10,000.) The Payments were made from May to July 1761: That he was dismissed the Company's Service the 5th of August following; and from that Period, to his leaving Bengal, the 20th of January 1762, he received further, and in like Manner, at different Times, the Sum of 144,000 *Sicca* Rupees (£. 18,000) making together the whole Amount received £. 28,000 Sterling: That the Reason of separating the Sums received, was in Support and Confirmation of the Idea that he had always entertained, and wished to convey to the Committee, of its having been a free and voluntary Gift; and he begged Leave again to remark, that by far the largest Part of the Present was received after his Dismissal: That under these Circumstances he ever considered the Transaction honourable, and never made a Secret of it: That he had thus intruded upon the Patience of the Committee, to obviate an Opinion, which seems too prevalent, that Presents are received indiscriminately in India, and that Self Interest is the only Motive of Actions there: And to shew what he thought dishonourable Presents, he further informed the Committee, That in March 1761, he was employed by the Governor and Council in the Province of *Burdwan*, to enquire into the State of the Revenues, so as to enable them to form a Settlement with the Rajah for the ensuing Year; that while he was upon his Journey, the Rajah found Means to send his Agents to Calcutta, who represented to the Governor and Council, that of late Years the Nabob's Receipts, which was the Claim the Company had on the Province, had scarcely exceeded 18 Lack of Rupees: However, after much Treating, they offered to settle for the next Year, at between 24 and 25 Lack: That the Governor and Council had not agreed in Form to this Proposal, but he was informed by a Letter on the 3d of April, they had determined so to do; and he was in

Consequence

Consequence immediately recalled: That he informed Mr. *Vanfittart* with the Opinion he had formed upon the Intelligence he had got into the State of the Province; and that he meant to protest against those Terms of Agreement: That the next Morning, before the Council met, he convinced Mr. *Vanfittart* to the full of the Justness of his Opinion, that he was re-appointed to *Burdwan* with the same Commission and Powers: That this Transaction appeared on the Consultation of the 10th of April 1771:—That about the latter End of June, or Beginning of July, he had completed his Enquiries, and returned to *Calcutta* with a voluntary Offer from the Rajah, of the Payment of 32 Lack and a Half of Rupees, which was agreed to, and the Whole received within that Year: That this Transaction established a Footing for a further Resident at *Burdwan*, and thereby laid the Foundation of an annual Increase of Rents, amounting at this Time, if he is rightly informed, to 43 Lack *per Annum*, net Receipt to the Company.

The Witness said, That on the Morning of the 10th of April, when his Re-appointment to *Burdwan* took Place, he had an Offer made by the Rajah's Agent of 4 Lack of Rupees for his own Use and Benefit, to be paid down immediately, on Condition he would forbear all Opposition to the Engagement which the Council were before ready to enter into; and that Mr. *Smith* (a Member of the Council) with whom he was intimately connected, soon after informed him, that he had Offers of 2 Lack of Rupees for his Influence with him, not to stir in the Affair; and that their further Offers to him (through Mr. *Smith*) were unlimited: That they both treated this Proposal as it deserved.

In regard to Presents received by others, the Witness said, That whatever had come to his Knowledge had been by acting as their Attorney; but as he is persuaded that the Gentlemen who employed him have no Reserve upon the Occasion, and as he can speak with Certainty on the Subject, he should conceal no Part:—That Mr. *Holwell*, who was of the Council, received 2 Lack and 70,000 Rupees—Mr. *McGwire*, one Lack and 80,000—Mr. *Culling Smith*, Secretary to the Committee, One Lack and 34,000—Major *York*, who commanded the Detachment immediately attendant on *Meer Cossim*, One Lack and 34,000—He did not know whether Mr. *Vanfittart* received any thing: These Sums were paid in 1761.

The Witness being asked, What were the Circumstances of the Country when this Money was received? he said, It was a Matter he supposed the Nabob a proper Judge of.

Being ask'd, Whether *Meer Jaffer*, at the Time of the Revolution, had discharged his Debt incurred by his Treaty with the Company in 1757:—he said, No. A Balance remained due, for which, when the Assignments in the *Burdwan* Country were given up, the Company received Jewels and other Effects, which were considered as full Security, not as Payment; and could not recollect when the Payment was made.

Being asked, Whether at the Time he received the first Payment of his Present, he did not receive an Obligation for a larger Sum?—he said, He did; that it was some Weeks, to the best of his Recollection, after *Cossim Ally Khan* left *Calcutta*, that *Coja Petrusse* informed him the Nabob intended to make him a Present of 2 Lack and a Half; and desired to know whether he would accept of them:—That he answered, he would very thankfully accept of them as a free and voluntary Gift, whenever his Circumstances and Situation admitted it, without Inconvenience to his own Affairs: That he then presented him with the Nabob's Obligation for that Sum, saying, That the Nabob had suffered much Uneasiness by Mr. *Vanfittart*'s Refusal of the Obligation for 20 Lack. The Witness replied, That he considered the Obligation of no Validity; but he received the Present as an Earnest of the Nabob's friendly Intentions towards him.

Being asked, If, at the Time of this Conversation with

*Coja Petrusse*, the Nabob was indebted to the Company? he said, It was probable he might be in Debt, but he thinks Jewels were mortgaged for the Payment of every Debt. The Deposit of Jewels was considered as absolute good Security; but when they were redeemed, or how the Account was settled, he could not recollect.

The Witness further said, That large Sums had been sent by *Meer Jaffer* to *Paima* for Payment of the Troops; and Payments had likewise been made at *Muxadavad*; that Sums were still due was most probable, for he did not suppose Army Accounts ever have been, or will be, settled. As to the Troubles in the Country, he apprehends they were not concluded; and that the Battle with the Shawzadda had not then happened.

Being asked, Whether he apprehended the Treasure of the Nabob was abounding at that Time? he said, At the Time the Obligation was given, he apprehended not; but when it was paid, he apprehended the Nabob found no Inconvenience.

In Answer to further Questions, the Witness said, That he never disclosed to Mr. *Vanfittart* his Conversation with *Coja Petrusse*, nor had he had Curiosity to enquire whether Messages, similar to that sent to him, had been sent to Mr. *Holwell*, Mr. *Calliaud*, Mr. *McGwire*, or either of them: And he does not believe that Mr. *Vanfittart* knew any thing of the 2 Lack mentioned in Mr. *Holwell*'s Letter; and thought it impossible he should.

In the Course of the above Evidence, were read the Papers annexed in the Appendix, No. 12.

Your Committee having proceeded thus far in their Report; and finding it impossible, from the intended Prorogation, to digest in any Manner the rest of their Proceedings, have, in Consideration of the Importance of the Matter, laid a Transcript of their Minutes before the House.

#### General Carnack.

Whether you was present in *Bengal* at the Time of the Revolution, which placed *Cossim Ally Khan* on the Musnud?

I left *Bengal* in February 1760, with Lord *Clive*, on my Return to *Europe*.—At my Arrival at *Saint Helena* I had Information that the Court of Directors had appointed me Major of their Settlement at *Bengal*, and Commander of their Forces there.

In Consequence of that Information, I availed myself of the Opportunity of one of the Company's Ships that was at *Saint Helena*, and went back to *Bengal*.—I arrived in the Mouth of the River, I think, in the Beginning of October in that Year; but being detained there Five or Six Days by contrary Winds, I suppose it was about the 12th or 13th before I arrived at *Calcutta*:—I then received a Letter from Mr. *Vanfittart*, who had heard of the Ship's being in the River, informing me he was gone to *Muxadavad* with Colonel *Calliaud*, and wished me to follow him as soon as possible: I accordingly tarried but a very few Days at *Calcutta*, and proceeded up to Mr. *Vanfittart*.—In my Way to one of the Palaces, called *Moradog*, where Mr. *Vanfittart* was, I of Necessity passed by the Nabob's Palace, while Colonel *Calliaud*, with the Troops, was there, it being the very Day of the Revolution, in the Act of making the Revolution; and yet every thing was so quiet, that I passed the Place without having any Idea of the Matter. —Mr. *Vanfittart*, upon our Meeting, informed me of what had been transacted.

#### To state the Circumstances relating to *Ramnarrain*.

*Ramnarrain* was a very able Man, but very avaricious, and he had the Credit of being very wealthy, which was Motive sufficient for *Cossim Ally Khan* to wish to have him in his Power. He was always an Object of Jealousy of the Nabob's, and even *Meer Jaffer* wished to have had hold of his Treasures; however, my Lord *Clive* had secured him from any Injustice of that Nature, and it was deemed a proper Point of Policy to support *Ramnarrain*, and the first Orders I received after the

Victory

Victory over the Shawzadda, were to maintain the Engagements which had been observed in Lord Clive's Time, with respect to protecting *Ramnarrain* from any Violence or Injustice on the Part of the Nabob.—The Plea of his being in Arrear was the Pretext always made use of for oppressing him, but without Foundation; for in the frequent Conversations I had with *Ramnarrain* on the Subject, he always seemed ready to come to a fair and equitable Account:—The Governor and Council thought proper afterwards to give me contrary Directions respecting that unfortunate Man: There stands upon the Company's Records a Letter from me to the Board, shewing the Contrariety of their Orders, and an absolute Refusal, while I was at the Head of their Forces, of doing so dishonourable an Act, as delivering up this Man to his Enemy.

*Fort William* Consultations, 21 April 1761.—Major *Carnac's* Letter relating to *Ramnarrain*—read.

The 2d Order the Governor and Council gave me, was to deliver up *Ramnarrain*, which I absolutely refused.—In the Interim Colonel *Coote* came and took the Command of the Army:—Colonel *Coote's* pursuing the same Measures, with respect to *Ramnarrain*, was an Approbation of my Conduct, which was very pleasing to me.

At the Time you left the Army at *Paina* did you understand that you had a Right to quit the Service when you thought proper?

I certainly had a Right, in my Apprehension, to resign the Service, except to evade Punishment for any Crime I might have been guilty of, or in the Face of Danger.

Whether you delivered such an Opinion to the Presidency at *Calcutta*?

I did, and it stands upon Record.

Was there then any Obligation or Covenant between the Military Servants and the Company to serve for any limited Time?

I believe there have been Instances of inferior Officers entering into such Covenants, but my Commission was sent out without any such Stipulation; and I will observe, why in Justice it ought to be so, for it was in the Power of the Governor and Council to dismiss me at their Pleasure.

Whether the same Liberty did not extend to all the other Military Servants of the Company not having entered into Covenant?

So I have always understood singly, and with Restriction, as I have mentioned.

Do you imagine, that if at the Time you had resigned, another Person exercising the same Right at the same Time would have rendered an Action, innocent in itself, criminal by the Conduct of another?

No—nor Men in more than one—as no immediate Detriment could have from thence ensued to the Service; but I should think myself highly criminal to join in a general Combination to resign.

Do you imagine that several Persons combining together to do an act, which was lawful for each to do separately, would, by such Combination, be guilty of a Crime?

I do, and for this Reason, that general Ruin (and more especially in *India*, where the Loss of Officers cannot be supplied) would be the Consequence of such a general Resignation.

Do you think that every thing which may be hurtful in its Consequences is therefore criminal to do?

Where the Public is materially concerned I think so.

Whether your Motive for quitting the Army was the Orders you received for giving up *Ramnarrain*?

I did not quit the Army, but was ordered down, I believe, with a View of removing every Obstacle to the Delivery up of *Ramnarrain*?

Whether you do not think that a Breach of the

general Engagements, under which Officers served the Company, would have warranted a general Resignation?

I think it may tend to exculpate; but no private Considerations can warrant an Act; when the public Safety is at Stake.

*Sir Eyre Coote.*

To give an Account of the particular Circumstances relative to *Ramnarrain*.

After the Campaign was over, on the Coast of *Coromandel*, which ended, I believe, in *January* 1760, I then went down to *Bengal*:—I may say, prior to that; that I had received a Letter from the Governor and Council of *Madras*, 4 *December* 1760, informing me of the Revolution in *Bengal*, and that there was Five Lack of Rupees sent from the Nabob, *Ceffin Ally Khan*, for the Payment of the Troops acting in the Siege of *Pondicherry*:—At that Time we were, I believe, Three or Four Months in Arrears to our Black Troops, notwithstanding all the Attention the Governor and Council of *Madras* paid to the supplying us with Money; if that Money had come in any other Way than by a Revolution, it would have made me much happier than it did.—In my Answer to that Letter of the 7th, I gave my Opinion of my Disapproval of that Revolution, as a Measure I thought would be productive of the Loss of our Reputation.—Upon my Arrival in *Bengal* I found there was two different Parties of the Council, the one that had formed the Revolution, and the other that disapproved of it:—I was intimately acquainted with the Gentlemen of both those Parties, and therefore, as the Affair had happened, however unfortunate I thought it might prove, I made it my Business to endeavour to reconcile the Two Parties, with a Resolution, at that Time, not to interfere in any Matter of Business or Politics where I thought no Honour was to be gained; however, I was over persuaded by Mr. *Vanfittart* and the other Gentlemen (as a Measure which they told me they imagined would be of great Service to the Company) to go up to the Army at *Paina*; accordingly I desired they would give me Instructions to proceed by, which are as follows.

Instructions to Colonel *Cope* in the Select Committee Proceedings, *Fort William*, 21 April 1761, read.

By this, I believe, it will plainly appear, that the Governor and Council had two Objects in view, in sending me there; one was the fixing a Plan of Operation upon the Supposition that we should be able to conduct the Mogul to *Delhi*; the other to secure and protect *Ramnarrain* in the Province of *Paina*:—Upon my Arrival at *Paina* I applied, with the closest Attention, to the Business upon which I was sent there; I informed the Shawzadda of the Sentiments of the Board towards him, and the Desire the *English* had to assist him to the utmost of their Power, which he seemed very sensible of, and very desirous of having; at the same Time desiring that he might be proclaimed and acknowledged by us as he had been by different Powers in *Indostan*; and said, he thought it very extraordinary, that where he himself resided, there he was not acknowledged: Those Matters I communicated to the Board to receive their Instructions, as will be seen in the Course of the Correspondence in *July*.—I likewise informed *Ramnarrain*, that I had Orders from the Governor and Council to protect him, provided he would settle his Accounts with the Nabob; and therefore I desired him immediately to set about it, informing the Nabob of the same, as may be seen in my Correspondence with the Governor and Council.—During those Transactions I received a Letter from the Board, recommending it to me to proclaim the King.—I found, that had I immediately complied with the Request of the Board, it might prove of fatal Consequence to the Nabob, and to the Company, at that Time; for he had given away several of the best Provinces to different People that belonged to him, particularly

ticularly *Purnea*, which will likewise be seen in the Correspondence; I therefore thought it, to the best of my Judgment, for the Advantage of the Company and the Nabob, as it was the Shawzadda's Inclination, to let him go to *Shujab Dowlah*; at the same Time I had got the Nabob to consent to that Measure, and to pay a Visit with me to the Shawzadda; then it was thought advisable, both by the Nabob, and several of the Company's Servants who were present, that the Nabob for himself, and I on Behalf of the *English*, should coin the Siccās, and acknowledge him Mogul on the Day that he should pass the Boundary of the Province; this he seemed satisfied with, and it was agreed that Major *Carnac*, with Part of the Army, should escort him; the Major informing me, in proper Time, of the Day he should join *Shujab Dowlah*, in order that I might keep my Promise, the Nabob consenting entirely to all this Matter; and at the same Time agreed, that if we prosecuted the Expedition, and settled Matters with *Shujab Dowlah*, that he would advance the 10 Lack towards the Payment of our Forces.—The King was but a few Days gone, when the Nabob seemed to alter his Sentiments entirely, with regard to the Promises he had made, and turned his Thoughts intirely towards the seizing of *Ramnarrain*, for which, if I would give him up, he offered me Seven Lack and a Half of Rupees, and whatever I pleased to the Gentlemen of my Family; this I communicated, by Letter, to the Governor and Council of 17th July 1761:—The Nabob finding he could not gain his Point, with regard to *Ramnarrain*, then thought it necessary to write the Governor, Mr. *Vanfittart*, the most scandalous Invektives, and false Accusations, against me, and was determined that he would not declare the King the Day we had both given our Words of Honour for doing it.—He had then a large Army encamped on the Outside of *Pasna*:—I was then in the City, and from the Detachments which I had made, and which were sent for the Collection of Revenues with Major *Carnac*, I had not then under my Command above 150 Europeans, 70 of which were in the Hospitals, and I believe 3 or 400 *Sepoys*; I was, with this Force, to protect the City, *Ramnarrain*, and to defend my own Honour:—The Nabob knowing my Weakness, thought it a proper Opportunity to get Possession of the City:—He applied to me for Leave to come into the Fort of the City the Day before the Shawzadda was to be proclaimed; to which I agreed, and he seemed thoroughly satisfied, provided he only brought in the Attendants about his Person; this he consented to: The Night or two before the Mogul was to be proclaimed, he sent me Word, that he would not proclaim him, nor come into the City, unless he had the Gates delivered up to him, which I would by no Means consent to; at the same Time I informed him, that I had given my Honour for declaring the Mogul on such a Day, and I would have it performed in the City, which would not appear proper in the Eyes of the Country, as he was Subah of the Province, and begged we might have a Conference upon the Subject, which he evaded having; and I was informed by my Spies, that that very Night his Camp was all in Motion, and his Artillery brought towards the City.—I sent the next Morning to one of his chief Ministers, to learn the Reason of such a Movement, and the Meaning of the Nabob, which he told me was done by *Coja Gregory*, who was his Head General; and he was not afraid to say at the Durbar, that it would be productive of Mischief: Finding, the next Night, the same Movements and Disturbances in his Camp, I thought it necessary to go the next Morning myself, and to see him, if possible; accordingly I ordered a Company of *Sepoys*, and a Troop of 30 Horsemen that I had, to get themselves in Readiness by Six in the Mornings, at which Hour the next Morning I sent Mr. *Watts* to inform him of my coming: It was Seven before I arrived at his Tent, and Mr. *Watts* informed me, that the Nabob was not to be seen; he had sent to him,

but had not seen him: I went into the outer Tent, taking Pistols in my Hand for my own Security, and sat down there till I should hear further:—As it is a Custom in *India*, when they mean ill to a Person that visits them in Camp, to cut the Tent Cords, and let the Tent fall on the Person they mean to destroy, I desired Captain *Jffer* to place Two of the Troopers round the Tent, to prevent any Mischief of that Kind; and finding the Nabob would not see me, I rode away, and left Mr. *Watts* to inform him of my Business: This the Nabob represented to the Governor and Council as a grievous Insult, for which Reason I received several extraordinary Letters from the Board, which are upon the Correspondence, with my Answers; and at my Return to *Calcutta*, I desired a strict Enquiry might be made into the Matter; and the Enquiry was made.

[Consultations, *Fort William*, 28 September 1761, Letter to Colonel *Cooté* read.]

I was ordered by the Select Committee, to withdraw the Protection from *Ramnarrain*, which I did accordingly; he was soon after murdered, and his Treasure seized.

[Letter, 18 June 1761, to Colonel *Cooté*, for *Ramnarrain's* Suspension, read.]

[17 July, Colonel *Cooté's* Letter in Answer to Dr. read.]

The withdrawing the Protection from *Ramnarrain* was in Effect giving him up to the Power of the Nabob.

The Papers read in the Course of the above Evidence are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Your Committee having taken the Evidence of Colonel *Munro*, a Member of the House, at his express Desire, that he might be at Liberty to attend his private Affairs in *Scotland*, they have added it to their Report, though beyond the Period to which they have been able to extend their present Enquiry, as it has turned out.

Colonel *Munro*:—In April 1764, I was under the King's Orders, from His Majesty's Secretaries of State and War, to return to *Europe* with such of His Majesty's Troops, as did not chuse to enlist into the Company's Service; I was accordingly to have embarked with the Troops, the Beginning of May, on board a *Mocha* Ship, which was to sail for *Europe*; but before I embarked there were Two Expresses arrived from *Bengal*, acquainting the Governor and Council at *Bombay*, that *Shujab Dowlah* and *Celism Ally Khan* had marched into the Province of *Bengal*, at the Head of 60,000 Men: That Major *Adams*, who commanded the Army, was dead: That the Settlement of *Calcutta* was in the utmost Consternation, and the Company's Affairs in the utmost Danger; they therefore requested, that the Governor and Council of *Bombay* would apply to me to go round immediately to take the Command of the Army with His Majesty's Troops, and as many as could be spared from the Presidency of *Bombay*.—As His Majesty's Intention in sending out his Troops to *India*, by the Orders I had, was to assist and defend the Company in their different Settlements, I thought it would not be answering the Intention of sending them out to return and leave the Company's Affairs in that Situation; I therefore complied with the Request, and arrived at *Calcutta* with His Majesty's Troops, and a Detachment of the Company's from *Bombay*, some Time in the Month of May 1764: Mr. *Vanfittart*, who was then Governor, acquainted me that the Army under the Command of Major *Carnac* had been, since the Death of Major *Adams*, and *Shujab Dowlah* and his Army had come into the Province, upon the Defensive, and retreated before the Enemy; but I am sure, from Major *Carnac's* gallant Behaviour upon every Occasion, that he will be able to give a proper Account for his Conduct in that Campaign.—Mr. *Vanfittart* requested, that I would immediately repair with the Troops I had carried round



from Bombay, to join the Army who were in Cantonment at *Paina*, and take the Command of them.—I found the Army, *Europeans* as well as *Sepoys*, mutinous, deferting to the Enemy, threatening to carry off their Officers to the Enemy, demanding an Augmentation of Pay, demanding large Sums of Money, which they said had been promised them by the Nabob, and disobedient to all Order; 400 of the *Europeans* had gone off in a Body, and joined the Enemy some Time before I joined the Army: This being the Situation the Army was in, I fully determined to endeavour to conquer that mutinous Disposition in them before I would attempt to conquer the Enemy:—I accordingly went with a Detachment of the King and Company's *Europeans* from *Paina*, with Four Field Pieces of Artillery, to *Chippera*, one of the Cantonments:—I think the very Day, or the Day after, I arrived, a whole Battalion of *Sepoys*, with their Arms and Accoutrements, went off to join the Enemy; I immediately detached about 100 *Europeans*, and a Battalion of *Sepoys*, whose Officers told me they thought they could depend upon them not to desert, with Two Field Pieces, to endeavour to come up with the Deferters, and bring them back to me; the Detachment came up with them in the Night Time, found them asleep, took them Prisoners, and carried them back to *Chippera*:—The Officer who commanded the Detachment sent me an Express, acquainting me with the Hour he would arrive at *Chippera* with the Prisoners.—I was ready to receive them with the Troops under Arms; upon their Arrival at *Chippera*, I immediately ordered their Officers to pick me out 50 of the Men of the worst Characters, and who they thought might have enticed the Battalion to desert to the Enemy; they did pick out 50: I desired them to pick me out 24 Men of those 50 of the worst Characters: I immediately ordered a Field Court Martial to be held by their own Black Officers, and after representing to the Officers the heinous Crime the Battalion had been guilty of, desired they would immediately bring me their Sentence; they found them guilty of Mutiny and Desertion, sentenced them to suffer Death, and left the Matter to me; I ordered immediately Four of the 24 to be tied to the Guns, and the Artillery Officers to prepare to blow them away:—There was a remarkable Circumstance, Four Grenadiers represented, as they always had the Poist of Honour, thought they were intitled to be first blown away; the Four Battalion Men were untied from the Guns, and the Four Grenadiers tied and blown away, upon which the *European* Officers of the Battalions of *Sepoys*, who were then in the Field, came and told me, that the *Sepoys* would not suffer any more of the Men to be blown away:—I ordered the Artillery Officers to load the Four Field Pieces with Grape Shot, and drew up the *Europeans* with the Guns in their Intervals; desired the Officers to return at the Heads of their Battalions; ordered them immediately to ground their Arms, and if one of them attempted to move, I would give Orders to fire upon them, and treat them the same as if they were *Serajah Dowla's* Army.—They did ground their Arms, and did not attempt to take them up again, upon which I ordered 16 more of the 24 to be tied to the Guns by Force, and blown away the same as the first, which was done: I immediately ordered the other Four to be carried to a Cantonment, where there had been a Desertion of the *Sepoys* some Time before, with positive Orders to the Commanding Officer at that Cantonment to blow them away in the same Manner at the Guns, which was accordingly done, and which put an End to the Mutiny and Desertion.

I prepared to take the Field as early as possible after the Rains, with the Army, and fixed the 15th of September for the Rendezvous of the Troops from their different Cantonments: A Couple of Days before the Army marched, I had Intelligence that the Enemy had advanced several Parties of Horie, and had thrown up some Brest

Works on the Banks of the *Soane*, to impede the crossing of the Troops:—I ordered Major *Champion* with a Detachment and 4 Field Pieces to march and cross the *Soane* some Miles below, where the Army was to cross, after fixing with him the Hour and Day that I intended to arrive at the *Soane* with the Army:—I desired that he might be at that Time on the other Side, and endeavour to dislodge the Enemy, and cover the landing of the Troops.—That Officer was so pointed in executing his Orders, he began to fire upon the Enemy just as the Van of the Army appeared upon the Banks of the *Soane*, and soon dislodged them, by which Means the whole Army, in 4 Hours, was landed on the other Side without the least Molestation: I continued to march on towards *Buxar*, where the Enemy was:—The last 2 or 3 Days March the Line of March was a good deal harassed by the Enemy's Cavalry, so much that there was 2 Sergeants and 6 or 7 Men of the advanced Guard were killed:—Upon the 22d of October we arrived at *Buxar*, and encamped just without Range of the Enemy's Shot; and upon my going to reconnoitre their Situation with some of the Field Officers, I found the greatest Part of them were entrenched with the *Ganges* upon their Left, and the Fort or Village of *Buxar* on their Rear:—I intended to have attacked their Camp about 1 or 2 in the Morning of the 23d, and sent out Spies to bring me some Pieces of Intelligence, such as to know whether I could bring my Artillery on the Right of their Camp, resolving not to attack them on their Left, that we might have a better Chance to drive them into the *Ganges* than they should us: I likewise wanted to know in what Part of their Encampment the Force of their Artillery lay, and where the *Vizier* and *Cosim Ally Khan's* Tent stood:—The Spies did not return to Camp by 12 o'Clock at Night:—I took it for granted they had been taken Prisoners, and therefore resolved to put off the Attack till the 24th in the Morning: Two of the Spies came in by Day Light of the Morning of the 23d, and told me, that the Enemy were under Arms all Night, moving their Artillery, and sending off their Treasure and Women in the Night.—I went immediately with some Officers to look at their Disposition: I saw a good many of their Troops under Arms, but not out of their Entrenchments.—The Officers who were with me, as well as myself, thought they only meant to shew themselves in order to strike a Terror into our Troops, never imagining they would quit their Lines in order to attack us; and as I never heard of a Black Army before attacking a *European* Army, I returned to our Camp, wishing they would come out and attack us, for our Army was encamped in Order of Battle.—About Eight o'Clock in the Morning the Field Officer of the Day came into my Tent as I was at Breakfast, and acquainted me, that the Enemy's Right was in Motion, and he was sure they meant to attack us; I immediately went out with my reconnoitring Glais in my Hand, and saw and thought as he did, upon which I ordered the Drums to beat immediately to Arms, which was done, and the Troops advanced from their Encampment, and were in a few Minutes ready to receive them:—The Action lasted from Nine till Twelve; the Enemy then gave way, went off very slowly, blowing up several Tumbrils and Three large Magazines of Powder as they went off.—I immediately ordered the Line to break into Columns and pursue; and Two Miles from the Field of Battle there was a Rivulet, where the Enemy had a Bridge of Boats; they pierced the Boats, and sunk them before the Rear of their Army got over; by which Means there was about 2,000 of them drowned and sticking in the Mud; but that was the best Piece of Generalship *Shajah Dowla* shewed that Day, because if I could have crossed the Rivulet with the Army, I would either have taken or drowned his whole Army in the *Carnassia*, and come up with his Treasure and Jewels, and *Cosim Ally Khan's* Jewels, which I was informed amounted to between Two and Three Millions.

The Strength of our Army at this Battle were as follows:

Europeans in Battalion, Rank and File, 746; of which 250 were King's Troops.—Artillery Men 71.—European Cavalry, 40.—In all, Europeans 857, exclusive of Officers.—Sepsis, Rank and File, 5,297.—Black Cavalry 918: In all 7,072.—Train of Artillery, 20 Field Pieces.—European Officers killed 2, wounded 7.—Europeans killed 34, wounded 49.—Non Commissioned Officers, killed 3, wounded 6.—Europeans killed and wounded 101.—Sepsis killed 205, wounded 414, missing 85.—Black Cavalry, killed 45, wounded 24.—Killed and wounded 847.—Artillery taken in the Field 133 Pieces of different Sizes, all upon Carriages, and most of them English Carriage.—The Enemy was reported to be 60,000; but I am sure, there were not less than 40,000.—I am likewise sure, That there must have been 2,000 of them killed in the Field of Battle, exclusive of those drowned. And as I had not Surgeons sufficient to dress our own wounded, and give them any Assistance, I went every Day for 5 Days successively, to every Man of their wounded in the Field, and gave Rice and Water to such as would take it, and which was all the Assistance I could give them.—The Army remained at *Buxar* for several Days, until Hospitals were provided for the wounded, and to bury the dead.—I then marched the Army into *Shujab Dowlah's* Country, and sent an Express to *Calcutta*, for further Directions from the Governor and Council.—The Mogul (*Shah Allum*) wrote me a Letter the Day after the Battle, giving me Joy of the Victory over the Vizier, who had kept him as a State Prisoner, and desiring I would take him under my Protection; and acquainting me, That though he was with the Vizier in Camp, he had left him the Night before the Battle.—My Answer to this Letter, was as nearly as I can remember, That I would immediately send an Express to Mr. *Vansittart*, the Governor of *Calcutta*, but that I would not take him under Protection until I knew how far such a Step might be proper, and for the Interest of the Company.—He sent to me, and wrote to me repeatedly before I had an Answer from *Calcutta*, desiring me to come to him, for he had something very particular to communicate to me: I at last sent him Word, that I would wait upon him, provided he would not look upon himself as under the English Protection; to which he consented.—When I waited upon him, he told me, That if the English took him under Protection, he would give them *Shujab Dowlah's* Country, that or any Thing else that they pleased to demand, and repeated many Grievances and Hardships that *Shujab Dowlah* laid him under; and said, He was only his State Prisoner.—I continued to march the Army on towards *Banaras*; and the Mogul continued to march with his Guards, and encamped every Night pretty close to our Encampment. Before the Army arrived at *Banaras*, I had an Answer from the Governor and Council, who consented, that the King should be taken under Protection.—Upon the Army's arriving at *Banaras*, *Shujab Dowlah* sent me his Minister *Bene Babadre*, with Overtures of Peace, which I refused, because I insisted upon it in the first Instance, that he would deliver me up *Coffin Ally Khan* and *Sumro*; the former had ordered so many of the Subjects of Great Britain to be massacred, and the latter undertook to put the horrid Crime in Execution, when no Man in the Nabob's Army would undertake it but himself.—*Sumro* was a German, and a General Officer; and had been before a Sergeant in the French Service, deserted from them to us, and from us to *Coffin Ally Khan*.—He commanded *Shujab Dowlah's* Artillery at the Battle of *Buxar*, and had 3 or 400 French Deserters from our Army under his Command.—*Bene Babadre* told me *Shujab Dowlah* never could think of giving up *Coffin Ally Khan* or *Sumro*, but if I passed from that Demand, I might have any

other Terms I pleased; he said, *Shujab Dowlah* would give 25 Lack of Rupees, to defray the Expenses the Company had been at in the War; 25 Lack to the Army; and 8 Lack for myself.—This he told me in the Presence of Captains *Stables* and *Gordon*, who was my Aid de Camps, and both now in England, Mr. *Stewart*, my Secretary, and my Interpreter.—My Answer was, If he gave me all the Lacks in his Treasury, I would make no Peace with him, until he had delivered me up those murdering Rascals, for I never could think that my receiving 11 or 12 Lack of Rupees, was a sufficient Atonement for the Blood of those unfortunate Gentlemen who were murdered at *Patna*, nor a sufficient Atonement to the weeping Parents, Friends, and Relations, of those unfortunate Gentlemen; these were my very Words.—Upon this, *Bene Babadre* and I parted.—He returned a Second Time, with Assurances from *Shujab Dowlah*, That if I made Peace with him, he would put me upon a Method of laying hold both of *Coffin* and *Sumro*; and made Use of all the persuasive Arguments he could, to induce me to make Peace.—I still insisted upon my first Preliminary: *Bene Babadre* desired, if that was the Case, that I would permit Captain *Stables*, who spoke the Country Language, to return with him to the Nabob's Camp; that the Nabob wanted to speak with Captain *Stables*.—I told Captain *Stables*, That as I was fully determined never to depart from his giving up *Coffin Ally Khan*, and *Sumro* in particular, I did not wish or advise him to go, for that they might use him the same Way as the other unfortunate Gentlemen.—Captain *Stables* replied, That he would with Pleasure risk his own Life, could he be the Instrument of bringing those Two to be made public Examples of.—He accordingly went with *Bene Babadre* to the Nabob's Camp, and when he returned, he told me, That since he found I was fully determined to have *Coffin* and *Sumro*, that in regard to *Coffin*, he would not by any Manner of Means deliver him up, but let him escape.—But as to *Sumro*, if I sent a or 3 Gentlemen from the English Camp who knew *Sumro*, he would ask *Sumro* to an Entertainment; and in Presence of those Gentlemen, he would order him to be put to Death.—He offered Captain *Stables* a Sum of Money, to endeavour to prevail upon me to agree to his Terms; but as I never would, the next Thing to be considered was, the Manner of driving *Shujab Dowlah* entirely out of his Country, who was then at *Lacknow* with the Remains of his Army; and to consider of the Manner of settling his Country.—I wrote to *Calcutta*, to the Governor and Council, sent them a Letter the King wrote to me much about this Time; proposing, that he should have so much of *Shujab Dowlah's* Country, and cede the rest to the Company; and request me, that I would make no Peace with *Shujab Dowlah*.—I sent this Letter to *Calcutta*, desiring to know the Directions of the Governor and Council with regard to this Matter; and acquainting them likewise, That I was determined to leave the Army so as to return to *Calcutta*, to embark with the last Ship that should fail that Season with His Majesty's Troops.—The Governor and Council sent a Copy of a Treaty to be executed by the King, and Mr. *Marriot*, Mr. *Billers*, who was Chief of *Patna*, and Mr. *Daker*, to be present at the executing of this Treaty.—The Treaty with the King was executed.

As so much Time had been taken up by these Transactions, and the Time drawing near for my quitting the Command, Major *Carnac* was ordered by the Governor and Council to repair immediately to take the Command.—I left the Army the 6th of January 1765, and met Major *Carnac* upon his Way to take the Command; I told him what my Plan of Operations would be, had I remained in the Command; and which were as follows: As I hold it a Rule never to be departed from in that Country, not to come to a

general

general Action with the Army, except where every Thing is at Stake; I determined, as we were in Possession of I believe the greatest Part of *Shujab Dowla's* Country, to have remained some Time longer in Camp, as his Army must of Course disperse when his Money was out; and if I found that would take up too much Time, I would march the Army towards *Lucknar*, and if he came to Action, to have then risked a Battle with him, and taken Possession of *Lucknar* and *Illahabad*, which was his whole Country, with what he had in Possession; I told this to Major *Carnac*, who said, he would follow the same Plan.

The Company's Governor and Council, and all the Servants at the Settlement of *Calcutta* or elsewhere, were under no Apprehensions from what *Shujab Dowla* or *Cosim Ally Khan* could do after the Battle of *Buxar*, as will appear from several Letters wrote me from the Presidency, and by their Letters Home, after the Battle of *Buxar*.—The Company's Investments for Europe were carried on that Year in the same Manner as usual; they had no Enemy nearer the Settlement of *Calcutta* than 800 Miles, and that Enemy at the Head of the Remains of a conquered Army: That was the Situation I left the Country in; and before I embarked for Europe, and before General *Carnac* joined the Army, Sir *Robert Fletcher* marched the Army, took Possession of *Illahabad* and *Lucknow*; and *Shujab Dowla's* Army, as I understood, totally dispersed.

If, at the Time you found the Army in that mutinous Disposition, they were regularly paid?

They were.

Whether you know of any Promise that had been made them of an Increase of Pay, or of any Promise of a Present made from the Nabob?

I am sure there was no Promise of an Increase of Pay; nor do I know of any Promise of a Present; but I heard that Major *Adams* told them, they should have a Present from the Nabob, if they drove the Troops out of the Country.

What do you apprehend, was the Cause of that mutinous Disposition?

From the different Actions the Troops were in with *Cosim Ally Khan*, and their being able to drive him from Post to Post, under that gallant Officer Major *Adams*; they thought themselves intitled to benefit by that Success, and I suppose (owing to the Troops being in the Field) there must have been a Relaxation of Discipline.—These are the Motives that I suppose induced them to mutiny, and probably there might have been large Promises from the Enemy if they would join them.

Of what Nation were these Europeans that mutinied, and deserted to the Enemy?

Mostly *French*—and I believe some *Germans*—don't know whether there were any *English*.

Whether those Europeans were mixed with the *English* Companies, or whether they were in a Corps by themselves?

They were mixed with the *English* Companies.—Did not get back any of those Deserters except One.

Where do the *Indian* Princes get their Artillery and Gunpowder?

Their Artillery they get from *England*, *Holland*, and *France*.—For while I was in *India*, there was hardly a Ship came there, that did not sell them Cannon and small Arms.—The Gunpowder they make the most of it themselves.—They cast some Cannon—but there is no Black Prince that cast Cannon but the King of *Travancore*.—Shot they cast in Abundance.

What Number of *Sepoys* can be got in the *East Indies*?

I believe any Number you please.—The Cannon and Military Stores are smuggled into the Country, and I believe the Company have made some Examples.—I always thought it a very great Scandal, that such Things should be suffered.—I think such a Practice

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might be easily prevented, as to the *English* Smuggling.

What do you apprehend would be the Means of making the *Sepoys* faithful and good Soldiers?

One Method, is a strict Discipline;—another, is having them to act with the Europeans;—another, suffering them their own Customs and Manners with regard to Religion, when it does not interfere with their Duty, to be well paid and have good Cloathing, and increasing the Number of European Officers, good Care when they are Sick, and using them well in every Respect while they behave well.

What is your Opinion of preserving our Conquests in *India*?

In the first Place, always to keep a proper Force of Europeans in that Country; never suffering the Company's Servants to make War against the Country Powers, until it is evident that they are the first Aggressors; and making proper Laws in the Country, to as that the executive Power may be properly executed.

What Force of Europeans should be kept in that Country, and *Bengal* particularly?

I think never less than an Establishment of 3,000 Men,—and I should rather think, if they could be spared from this Country, they ought to be 4,000; not that I don't think 3,000 Men are sufficient to defend that Country against all the Country Powers who may make War against the *English*; but my Reason for saying, that another 1,000 besides the 3,000 might be necessary, would be to counterbalance the Black Troops who must be necessarily employed in that Country, and who are capable of being taught Discipline almost equal to the Europeans.

What Number of *Sepoys* is a proper and safe Proportion for 3,000 Europeans?

About Four Parts in Five, or more.

What do you think might be the Supply of Recruits necessary to maintain an Establishment of 3,000 Men in that Country?

About 500 Men yearly in Time of Peace.

What is your Opinion of the Expediency of employing Foreigners in that Country, and particularly *Germans* and *Swiss*?

That any Foreigners whatsoever never ought to be employed by the *English* in that Country.—I have already given an Example, that when an Enemy was in the Field they deserted to them; and that they are of a quite different Religion, if they are of any at all.—I therefore think they would upon every Occasion, desert from us to those of the same Religion as themselves; and it has always been found, that they do so. Another Reason is, that as we have but just the Number that is absolutely necessary in that Country, I don't think they can be depended upon in Time of Action.

Do you know whether there have been any Corps of *Swiss* or *German* Protestants in *India*, under their own Officers?

I don't know of any such Corps.

What is your Opinion, if they had Corps of *Swiss*?

I am against Corps of Foreigners, of *Swiss* or *Germans*;—but as to having some mixed I have no Objection to it;—it might do very well.

What is your Opinion of employing as private Men, the Catholics from *Ireland*?

I think they might be very well and safely employed.—I am always for having the greatest Number of Troops from this Country.

Whether European Cavalry would be necessary?

Certainly of very great Use.

What Number would you recommend out of these 3,000 to be European Cavalry?

At least One Third.

What Proportion of the Black Troops ought to be Cavalry?

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If it was meant to have *European* Cavalry, I would have no Establishment of Black Cavalry at all, being of no Use in Time of Peace; and in Time of War only of Use to keep the Line quiet on the March.

Whether it has not been the Custom for Time immemorial, for Captains of *English* Ships to sell Arms and military Stores to the Natives of *India*?

The Time I was in *India*, it was a Custom; and have heard, it was always the Custom.

Whether the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Danes*, and all other Nations, do not likewise sell military Stores?

Always heard that they did.

Whether you think there is a Possibility of preventing other Nations from doing it?

No.

Whether it might not be a dangerous Experiment to train the *Sepoys* so as to make them equal to *Europeans*?

It may be a dangerous one, but it will still be a more dangerous one not to do it.

Whether you know or have heard of any other great Desertion, except what you have mentioned?

Not from my own Experience, but have heard the Officers say, That Foreigners always would desert.—About a Fifth or Sixth Part of the Private Men might be Foreigners, to be mixed with the other Troops.

Was you offered a Jaghire by the King?

The King gave me a Jaghire—I was in Possession of it; of £. 12,500 a Year for Life upon some of the Provinces in *Bengal*, for my Services to him and the Country.—Upon my Receipt of it, I wrote immediately to Mr. *Spencer*, who was Governor at *Calcutta*, acquainting him with the King's having given me a Jaghire.—I received his Answer, after I had quitted the Command of the Army.—Mr. *Spencer* acquainted me, That my receiving such a Jaghire was so much contrary to the Interest of the Company, that they never would suffer me to hold it; that I might remember the Company's having gone to Law with Lord *Clive* about his Jaghire; and requested, that I would deliver it up to the Nabob when I saw him, who would not only behave handsomely upon the Occasion, but that the Company would never see me the Sufferer from such an Act, after the Service I had done them.—From that Moment, I resolved to deliver it up to the Nabob when I saw him, and upon my Arrival at *Musadavad*, at his Palace, I waited on the Nabob, who was then ill; I told him, That I had got a Jaghire from the King, but as I was about to leave the Country, I would leave it with him.—This was in the Presence of Mr. *Middleton*, Resident at the Durbar, Captains *Gordon* and *Stables*.—The Nabob upon receiving the Jaghire, smiled, and said, This is a Piece of Generosity I am little accustomed to, but if I live, you shall not be the Sufferer; and desired his Minister *Nundcomar*, to desire the Interpreter to acquaint me, that he begged my Acceptance of Two Lack of Rupees, which would be at *Calcutta* much about the Time that I arrived there.—A few Days after my Arrival at *Calcutta*, I received a Letter from the Nabob's Son, acquainting me with his Father's Death, requesting my Interest for him to succeed his Father as Subah, and acquainting me, That he knew the whole Transaction of the Jaghire, and the Promises his Father made me, and assuring me, That he would make them good; and in this Situation I left my Jaghire and my Lacks.—I had a Letter from Mr. *Spencer* since I came to *England*, acquainting me, That he had acquainted my Lord *Clive* of the Demands I had upon the Government; that his Lordship promised him, if there was so much remaining of the Nabob's outstanding Debts, he would order the Payment of the Two Lack of Rupees to my Attorney.—I am very happy from his Lordship's eminent Services to this Country and the Company, that he has a more responsible Fund for the Payment of his Jaghire; at the same Time, I cannot help regretting, That his Lordship did not think my Two Years Rent deserved a

better Fund than the Nabob's outstanding Debts.—Let my small Services be rewarded as they may; let Individuals think of them as they please; I hope Facts will come out before this Committee is at an End, to shew them and the World that this Country has been served; that this *East India* Company has been saved by more than One or Two Men, many brave and gallant Men have done Honour to their King, have done Service to this Country, and have saved the *East India* Company; and some of them have lost their Lives in the Cause.—I never have received any Part of the Two Lack, nor any Present from the *East India* Company.

Whether at the Time the Mogul granted the Jaghire, the Nabob paid any Revenues or Acknowledgements to the Mogul?

He did not; nor did he pay any of the Royal Revenues from *Bengal*, which was stipulated to have been paid to the Mogul, either by the Nabob or the Company, I don't know which.

Whether this is not the First Time that you have mentioned the Circumstance of Mr. *Spencer's* Letter?

It is the First Time, and probably will be the last Time; and I should not have mentioned it now if it had not happened to have come in as I thought properly, in Answer to a Question that was asked me; and because when Lord *Clive* was upon the Spot, from his not having ordered the Payment of it, I thought his Lordship did not think I deserved it, and I gave him no Trouble about it, and I knew it was not in my Lord *Clive's* Power to do it when he came Home.

Whether you think it would have been proper for Lord *Clive* to have ordered the Nabob to pay that Money?

Had I been in his Lordship's Situation, and he in mine, I certainly would have ordered the Nabob to pay it.

Did you ever hear that Lord *Clive* ordered the Nabob to pay such a Thing to any Man living?

No.

Did you ever hear of any Money that was offered to Mr. *Spencer*, if he would continue *Nundcomar* about the Person of the Nabob?

When I came down to *Calcutta*, Mr. *Spencer* told me, that he was offered several Lack of Rupees (about 9, 10, or 11 Lack, can't say exactly) to support *Nundcomar*, which he refused.

Whether you know of any Order sent by the Directors Abroad, to put the 2 Lack, promised you by the Nabob, in a Course of Payment?

To the best of my Remembrance, I never had any public Intimation from the Court of Directors, that they had sent Orders to that Purpose; but some of the Directors told me privately, that the Nabob was to be put under Stoppages of so much Yearly for the Payment of the Donation to the Navy, the Restitution, and the 2 Lack which he promised to pay me, and that is all I know of the Matter.

Did you make any Application to the Mogul for your Jaghire?

No—nor no Person for me.

Sir *George Colbrooke* (Chairman of the *East India* Company) informed the Committee, That Orders was sent out last *March* or *April* Twelve Months, to reduce the Income of the Nabob to 16 Lack of Rupees during his Minority, and to apply the Surplus of his Revenue to the Payment of the Restitution, and to Colonel *Monro's* 2 Lack of Rupees.

Do you believe that Money will be paid?

I have no Doubt about it.

[43d Paragraph General Letter to *Bengal*, 10 April 1771, read]

Colonel *Monro*,

Had you an Offer of the *Dewanny* from the Company?

Yes.—The King, when I first saw him, offered me the *Dewanny*.—He told me he had offered it before.—I believe he offered it to Sir *Eyre Coote* after the Mogul's Father's

**Father's Death.**—He offered it before that to Major *Carnac*, as I am informed, and Mr. *Vansittart*, before I joined the Army, assured me that he could have had the *Dewan*, but did not know how far he could be justified in such an Act, or how far it might tend to the Interest of the Company.—My Reasons for not accepting the Offer were, that I formed no Plans of any Kind, but that of extricating the Company from the Danger that threatened them.

The Governor and Council were, or ought to be, the Judges, what was, or was not, for the Interest of the Company.—I was, or ought to be, the proper Judge what was for the Honour of his Majesty's Troops to be concerned in; and as *Meer Jaffer* had been but just placed upon the Musnud, for the Second Time, and as the Company's Affairs did not require deposing him, nor his own Conduct deserve it at that Time, I thought it would neither be for the Credit of their Troops, or the Honour of the Commanding Officer, to adopt such a Measure.—So much was this my Opinion, so well did I know Mr. *Vansittart's* Sentiments upon that Subject, before I joined the Army, that I do not remember I ever said any Thing to him about it.—These were my Reasons for not accepting the King's Offer.

Whether the Mogul could have effectually granted the *Dewan* to the Company without the Nabob's Consent?

I think the Mogul could and would have done any Thing at that Time that I desired him, without the Consent of the Nabob, and the Company would have reaped any Benefit from that Grant of the King's that they pleased, because ever since *Celīm Ally Khan* had been drove out of the Country, the Company themselves have been the Nabob, there has been only a nominal Nabob.

After the Battle of *Bunar*, did you receive any Letter from the Governor and Council, acknowledging the Merit of your Services upon that Occasion?

I have received several.—I imagine that one I received immediately after the Battle is before the Committee.

Did you receive any Letter from the Court of Directors here?

No, I did not—but the Chairman and Deputy Chairman came to me, at my Return, to make such Acknowledgement.

Did you make any Application to the Directors at your Return, upon the Subject of the Jaghire and 2 Lack?

Yes.

What Answer had you?

I had no public Answer.

[Letter from President, *Esq.* of *Fort William*, to Major *Munro*, 6 November 1764, read.]

Whether for giving up the Jaghire of 12,500 a Year, and for the Services performed to the Company, you have ever received from the Company any Reward whatsoever?

None of any Kind whatever.

Whether you did not understand from Mr. *Spencer* (the President at *Calcutta*) that you should have Amends made you by the Company for giving up the Jaghire?

I do confess that I did; and I also say, that could I have conceived that the Company would have served me so ungratefully in many Respects, since my Arrival from *India*, I never would have given up my Jaghire.

Whether after the Battle of *Bunar* you received any private Donations from any of the Eastern Princes?

Upon the Army encamping at *Banaras*, the Officer who commanded the Detachment in the Town, wrote me a Card, acquainting me a Rajah had something very particular to communicate to me, and if I granted his Request, he would give me 4 Lack of Rupees, and a handsome Present to the Officer.—The Request he

made me was to dispossess *Rajah Bulwand Sing*, who was Zemindar, from the Collection of the Country.—I told him I would not; I was desired to make no Alteration of any Kind.—About the Time I was quitting the Army, *Bulwand Sing* hearing I had rejected this Offer, came to me, and told me that he was sensible of my Favours to him, and begged my Acceptance of 80,000 Rupees, which is £. 10,000—and except that, from the Day I commanded the Army, which was near Five Years, further than the common customary Compliments, which are of small Amount, and which I made in my Turn to others; I solemnly declare, I never received a single Rupee by way of Present, either in Money or Jewels.—While I had the Command of that Army, I refused the Offers of above £. 300,000 at different Times, for making Alterations in the Offices of the Government. I recollect that at my leaving the Country, the Nabob sent £. 3,000 for me; and £. 3,000 among the Officers of my Family, which are the usual Presents to the Commanding Officer.

How long was you in *Benegal*?

From May 1764 to the End of February or Beginning of March 1765.

When did the Spirit of Mutiny first shew itself in the Army?

Before I came to the Command.

Did you levy any Contributions at *Banaras*, or elsewhere?

I never did lay the Country under any Contributions of any Kind; the Merchants of *Banaras* gave 4 Lack of Rupees to the Army, for Protection to themselves and their Effects.—I immediately acquainted the Governor and Council with it, to have their Sanction for the Army to receive it—which is upon the Company's Records; and they gave their Consent.

Was that the only Place where any such Contribution was given?

The only one in my Time.

What Proportion had you of the 4 Lack, as Commander in Chief?

An Eighth Part.

Mr. *Strachy*,

Whether you ever heard Lord *Clive* say, that Mr. *Spencer* had applied to his Lordship to apply to the Nabob for Payment of the 2 Lack of Rupees, promised to Colonel *Munro*?

Never did—and I think that had Mr. *Spencer* mentioned that Circumstance to Lord *Clive*, it was most probable that his Lordship would have mentioned it to me, who was his Secretary, and constantly with him.

General *Carnac*,

The same Question?

I never did; and I had not a Doubt till this Day, but that the Nabob had made Colonel *Munro* such an Acknowledgement as his Services deserved.

Colonel *Munro*,

Is not *Banaras* one of the richest Cities in *India*?

Yes.

What is the Rate of Interest at *Banaras*?

Can't tell, but thinks it lower there than any where else.

How long was you in quelling the Mutiny, and restoring the Army to a proper Discipline?

From the Beginning of June to some Time in July, when I made the Example I have before mentioned.

The Papers read in the Course of the above Evidence are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 14.

Your Committee, in reading over the Report, judged it necessary to read further Papers relating to Lord *Clive's* Jaghire and Presents, which, together with his Lordship's Explanation of the latter, are added in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 15.

# A P P E N D I X.

## No. 1.

List of Charters, or Letters Patent, granted to the *East India Company*; read

43d *Eliz.* **A** Charter, or Letters Patent of a Special Incorporation of Merchants, by the Name of the Governor and Company of Merchants of *London*, trading into the *East Indies*, with divers Privileges to them and their Successors, for 15 Years from *Christmas* last.

7th *James.* 31st *May.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Incorporation, to the said Governor and Company, with divers Privileges to them and their Successors for ever.

8th *James.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Privilege, that neither the said Governor and Company, nor their Goods and Merchandizes, shall be hereafter sued, vexed, seized, arrested, molested, or disquieted, in Respect of their Trading; and divers other Privileges.

20th *James.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Privilege, for the said Governor and Company, to chastise and correct all *English* Persons residing in the *East Indies*, and committing any Misdemeanor, either with Martial Law, or otherwise.

22d *James.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of a Pardon to the said Governor and Company, for certain Offences, and a Grant unto them of such Sums of Money, and other Goods and Merchandizes, as did belong to the King.

2d *Car. I.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, to the said Governor and Company, empowering them to erect Mills and Houses for making into Gunpowder all such Salt Petre as they shall import.

12th *Car. II.* 11th *January.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Licence, for the said Governor and Company to enter upon, take, and possess, the Island of *Roome* alias *Pula Roone*, and to regain the same from the *Netherland East India Company*, and to plant, husband, manage, retain, and keep, the same.

13th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, to the Governor and Company aforesaid, of divers Privileges to them and their Successors.

20th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Discharge to the said Governor and Company, for selling

Two *East India* Prizes, and for the Monies raised thereby.

20th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant to the said Governor and Company, of all that Island and Port of *Bombay*, to them, and their Successors.

24th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Release to the said Governor and Company, of several Covenants heretofore made between them and the Commissioners of the Navy, touching some Ships sent to the *East Indies*.

25th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Confirmation, to the said Governor and Company, of Articles concerning the Sale of Four *Dutch* Prizes.

25th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant to the said Governor and Company, of all that the Island of *Saint Helena*, to them, and their Successors.

26th *Car. II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of a Discharge to the said Governor and Company, for Monies made by the Sale of Four *Dutch* Prizes.

28th *Car. II.* 5th *October.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, to the said Governor and Company, of Confirmation of their Privileges.

35th *Car. II.* 1st *August.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, authorizing the Commissioners of the Admiralty, to grant and give out Commissions to such as the said Governor and Company should name and recommend, to aid and assist them against the King of *Bantam*.

35th *Car. II.* 9th *August.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Privileges, for the said Governor and Company, rendering their Charter of 3d *April*, 13th of his Reign, more effectual and complete.

35th *Car. II.* 14th *September.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of a Warrant, to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, to assist the said Governor and Company against the King of *Bantam*.

1st *James II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Proclamation, restraining all his Majesty's Subjects, but the said Governor and Company, and their Agents, from trading to the *East Indies*.

2d *James II.* A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Confirmation, to the said Governor and Company, of their former Charters and Privileges.

5th William III. 7th October. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Confirmation, to the said Governor and Company, of their Privileges.

5th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Discharge to the said Governor and Company, for the 10th Part of Prizes taken by them, and due to His Majesty, &c.

5th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, prescribing Orders and Directions, for the said Governor and Company.

6th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, prescribing Orders and Directions, for the said Governor and Company.

10th William III. A Charter or Letters Patent, declaring what Number of Votes each Member of the said Company shall have, which is according to his or her Proportion of Stock.

10th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Incorporation, empowering certain Persons to trade to the *East Indies*, by the Name of the General Society, entitled to the Advantages given by an Act of Parliament, for raising £. 2,000,000 for the Service of the Crown.

10th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Incorporation of Merchants, by the Name of the *English* Company trading to the *East Indies*.

10th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, appointing *Hugh Boscewen*, and others, to take Subscriptions for a general Society, to have Liberty and Power to trade to the *East Indies*.

10th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of a Schedule, marked A. containing the Draught of a Charter for the said General Society.

10th William III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of the Schedule, marked B. containing the Draught of a Charter for the aforesaid *English* Company.

1st Anne. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of an Indenture Tripartite, between the Queen on the first Part, the Governor and Company of Merchants of *London* trading into the *East Indies* of the second Part, and the *English* Company trading to the *East Indies* of the third Part; thereby granting the said Two Companies Power to trade with a Joint Stock, and divers other Privileges.

4th Anne. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Release, to the Governor and Company of Merchants of *London* trading into the *East Indies*, of all Offences and Crimes committed contrary to an Act of Parliament.

8th Anne. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant, to the *English* Company, trading to the *East Indies*, of all Debts and Sums of Money, due to the Governor and Company of Merchants of *London*, trading into the *East Indies*.

8th Anne. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Acceptance of a Surrender made by the Governor and Company of Merchants of *London*, trading into the *East Indies*, of their Charters, &c.

8th Anne. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant, to Sir *Jonathan Andrews*, and others, of all Debts, &c. due to the aforesaid Governor and Company, before the Surrender of their Charters: A Schedule of which Debts is mentioned in an Indenture, dated 21st March last, between the said Governor and Company, and her Majesty.

13th George I. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant, to the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, of Incorporation of Mayor and Aldermen at *Madraspatnam*, at *Bombay*, and at *Calcutta*, with divers Privileges to them, and their Successors.

1st George II. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant to the said United Company, of all Fines set upon any Persons by Virtue of the last recited Charter or Letters Patent.

2d George II. A Charter, or Letters Patent, empowering the Commissioners of the Admiralty, at the

Request of the said United Company, to give ample Powers to the Commanders of Ships belonging to the said Company, to take, seize, and destroy, any Foreign Ships trading from the *Austrian Netherlands* to the *East Indies*, for 6 Years, from the 20th of May last.

26th George II. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant, to the said United Company, of Incorporation of Mayor and Aldermen at *Madraspatnam*, at *Bombay*, and at *Calcutta*, with divers Privileges to them and their Successors.

31st George II. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant to the said United Company, of Plunder and Booty.

31st George II. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Grant to the said United Company, of Plunder and Booty.

1st George III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Commission to the said United Company, for the Trying of Pirates at *Fort Saint George*.

1st George III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, to the said United Company, of a Commission for the Trying of Pirates at *Fort Marlborough*.

1st George III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Commission, to the said United Company, for trying of Pirates at *Bombay*.

1st George III. A Charter, or Letters Patent, of Commission to the said United Company, for trying of Pirates at *Fort William*.

Lift of Acts read.

9th and 10th William III. An Act for raising a Sum not exceeding Two Millions, upon a Fund for Payment of Annuities, after the Rate of Eight Pounds per Centum per Annum, and for settling the Trade to the *East Indies*.

1st Anne, Cap. 12. S. 113. An Act for granting an Aid to her Majesty, by divers Subsidies, and a Land Tax.

6th Anne, Cap. 3. An Act for better securing the Duties of *East India* Goods.

6th Anne, Cap. 17. An Act for assuring to the *English* Company trading to the *East Indies*, on Account of the United Stock, a longer Time in the Fund and Trade therein mentioned; and for raising thereby the Sum of Twelve hundred thousand Pounds for carrying on the War, and other her Majesty's Occasions.

5th Geo. 1st. Cap. 21. An Act for the better securing the lawful Trade of his Majesty's Subjects, to and from the *East Indies*; and for the more effectual preventing all his Majesty's Subjects trading thither under foreign Commissions.

7th Geo. 1st. Cap. 5. S. 32 and 33. An Act to enable the *South Sea* Company to ingraft Part of their Capital Stock and Fund into the Stock and Fund of the Bank of *England*, and another Part thereof into the Stock and Fund of the *East India* Company; and for giving further Time for Payments to be made by the said *South Sea* Company, to the Use of the Public.

7th Geo. 1st. Cap. 21. An Act for the further preventing his Majesty's Subjects from trading to the *East Indies* under Foreign Commissions, and for encouraging and further securing the lawful Trade thereto, and for further regulating the Pilots of *Dever*, *Deal*, and the *Isle of Thanet*.

9th Geo. 1st. Cap. 26. An Act to prevent his Majesty's Subjects from subscribing, or being concerned in encouraging or promoting, any Subscription for an *East India* Company in the *Austrian Netherlands*; and for the better securing the lawful Trade of his Majesty's Subjects to and from the *East Indies*.

3d Geo. 2d. Cap. 14. An Act for reducing the Annuity or Fund of the United *East India* Company, and for ascertaining their Right of Trade to the *East Indies*; and the Continuance of their Corporation for that Purpose, upon the Terms therein mentioned.

Y y

3d Geo.

3d Geo. 2d. Cap. 20. An Act for taking off certain Duties on Salt, and for making good any Deficiencies in the Funds that may happen thereby, and for charging the reduced Annuity payable to the *East India Company* on the Aggregate Fund, and for Relief of *Matthew Lyon*, Executor of *Matthew Page*, deceased, in respect of the Duty for Salt lost by the overflowing of the River *Mersey*, in the Year One thousand Seven hundred and Twenty-four.

17th Geo. 2d. Cap. 17. An Act for granting to his Majesty the Surplus or Remainder of the Monies arisen or to arise by the Duties on Spirituous Liquors, granted by an Act of the last Session of Parliament; and for explaining and amending the said Act, in relation to the Retailers of such Liquors; and for establishing an Agreement with the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*.

27th Geo. 2d. Cap. 9. An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion of Officers and Soldiers in the Service of the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*; and for the Punishment of Offences committed in the *East Indies*, or at the Island of *Saint Helena*.

1st Geo. 3d. Cap. 14. An Act to extend the Provisions relating to the holding of Courts Martial, and to the Punishment of Offences committed in the *East Indies*, contained in the Act, made in the Twenty-seventh Year of his late Majesty's Reign, intituled, An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion of Officers and Soldiers in the Service of the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*; and for the Punishment of Offences committed in the *East Indies*, or at the Island of *Saint Helena*, to the said Company's Settlement of *Fort Marlborough*; and to such other principal Settlements, wherein the said Company may be hereafter impowered to hold Courts of Judicature.

7th Geo. 3d. Cap. 56. An Act for taking off the Inland Duty of One Shilling per Pound Weight upon all black and Single Teas consumed in *Great Britain*; and for granting a Drawback upon the Exportation of Teas to *Ireland* and the *British* Dominions in *America*, for a limited Time, upon such Indemnification to be made in respect thereof by the *East India Company* as is therein mentioned; for permitting the Exportation of Teas in smaller Quantities than One Lot to *Ireland*, or the said Dominions in *America*; and for preventing Teas seized and condemned from being consumed in *Great Britain*.

7th Geo. 3d. Cap. 57. An Act for establishing an Agreement for the Payment of the annual Sum of Four hundred thousand Pounds, for a limited Time, by the *East India Company*, in respect of the Territorial Acquisitions, and Revenues, lately obtained in the *East Indies*.

9th Geo. 3d. Cap. 24. An Act for carrying into Execution certain Proposals made by the *East India Company*, for the Payment of the annual Sum of Four hundred thousand Pounds, for a limited Time, in respect of the Territorial Acquisitions, and Revenues, lately obtained in the *East Indies*.

10th Geo. 3d. Cap. 47. An Act for better regulating Persons employed in the Service of the *East India Company*; and for other Purposes therein mentioned.

Military Officers Covenant, from July 1770 to the present Time.

Military, 1770.

This Indenture, made the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and ~~forth~~, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ between A. B. of *London*, Esquire, of the one Part, and the United

Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, of the other Part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the said United Company have granted a Commission to the said A. B. appointing him Captain of Foot in their Military Forces in the *East Indies*; now this Indenture witnesseth, and the said A. B. in Compliance with a Resolution of a General Court of the said United Company, and in Consideration of what he is, or shall be, entitled to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said Service, or in respect of any other Military Station or Employment, or which the said A. B. may hereafter be employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, Doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said A. B. shall not, nor will at any Time or Times hereafter, during his being employed in the said Company's Service, in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other Person or Persons whomsoever, in Trust for him or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift, or Grant of Lands, or Rents for Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power, or Authority, whatsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, for any Service or Services, or upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the Licence or Consent of the Court of Directors for the Time being of the said United Company, signified under their Hands; nor shall, or will, at any Time or Times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's Service, in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, in Trust for him, or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, in Money, Effects, Jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, exceeding the Value of Four thousand Rupees, for any Service or Services performed, or to be performed, by the said A. B. in *India*, or upon any other Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the like Licence or Consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signified as aforesaid; nor any such Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, exceeding the Value of One thousand Rupees, and under the Value of Four thousand Rupees, without the Licence or Consent of the President and Council for the Time being of the Presidency or Settlement where the said A. B. shall be employed; and that he the said A. B. shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts or Grants of Lands, or Rents or Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any such Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power, or Authority whatsoever; and also account for, and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts, Rewards, Gratuities, Allowances, Donations, or Compensations whatsoever, which, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents, shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Power, of the said A. B. or any other Person or Persons in Trust for him, or for his Use as aforesaid; Provided always that Nothing herein contained shall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or construed, to hinder or prevent, the said A. B. from accepting or receiving a Share or Proportion, in respect of his Military Post or Station, of any Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, in Money, or Effects, which any *Indian* Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, shall or may in Time of extreme Danger, Necessity, or Emergency, give or bestow upon any of the Military Officers



or Forces of the said United Company, provided such Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, be with the Privy and Consent of the Governor and Council of the Presidency or Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall be employed, and not otherwise; and provided also that the same be not obtained or exacted by Compulsion, or by Way of Bargain or Contract for any Service or Services performed or to be performed: Provided also that no Governor or President of any of the said United Company's Settlements in *India* shall, by Virtue of his Commission from the said United Company, be authorized or entitled to accept or receive any Part, Share, or Proportion, of any such Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, as is mentioned in the Proviso herein before contained. And this Indenture further witnesseth, and the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant, consent, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case the said *A. B.* shall be dismissed the said United Company's Military Service, by Sentence of Court Martial, or by a Resolution or Order of the Company's President and Council of such Settlement, where the said *A. B.* shall serve or be, or if the said *A. B.* shall otherwise legally quit the said Company's Military Service, that then, and in any or either of the said Cases, it shall be lawful to and for the said United Company's said President and Council, at any Time after the Expiration of Six Calendar Months, next following such Dismission from, or quitting, the said Company's Military Service as aforesaid, to carry and transport the said *A. B.* at the Expence of the said Company to *Great Britain*, in such Ship employed in the said Company's Service, as the said President and Council shall for that Purpose appoint. And in Case the said *A. B.* shall neglect or refuse to repair or go on board such Ship as aforesaid, by the Space of Ten Days after Notice shall be given him so to do, by Order of the said President and Council, then, and in such Case, it shall be lawful for the said President and Council, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to cause the said *A. B.* to be apprehended and detained, and to put him on board such Ship as aforesaid, for the Purpose of being carried and transported to *Great Britain*, so nevertheless, that no unnecessary Delay be sought, nor any fit Occasion or Opportunity lost, in so detaining or putting on board the said *A. B.* And further, in case of such apprehending, putting on board, and transporting, the said *A. B.* in Manner aforesaid, the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators, shall not nor will commence, sue, or prosecute, the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their Presidents and Council, Commanders, or Officers of any such Ships, or any other Person employed in any of the Matters aforesaid, in or by any Action, Suit, or other Prosecution, civil or criminal, in respect of such apprehending him the said *A. B.* or of putting him on board and transporting him the said *A. B.* to *Great Britain*, in Manner aforesaid: And in Case any such Action, Suit, or Prosecution, shall be commenced, sued, or prosecuted, for any of the Matters aforesaid, the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said Company, that the General Issue may be pleaded, and this present Indenture, or any other special Matter, may be given in Evidence, by any of the Defendants, in any such Suit, Action or Prosecution, in Bar, Discharge, and Defence thereof, any Thing in these Presents contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding. In Witness whereof, to one Part of this Indenture, the said *A. B.* hath put his Hand and Seal; and to the other Part thereof the said United Company have caused their Common Seal to be affixed, the Day and Year abovewritten.

*A. B.* (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being first duly stamped) in the Presence of

Memorandum: Military Officers do not give Security for Performance of the above Covenant.

I acknowledge to have read the within Covenant before I executed the same.

Witness,

*A. B.*

Military Officers Covenant, from May 1764 to July 1770.

This Indenture, made the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord \_\_\_\_\_ by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ Between *A. B.* of *London*, Esquire, of the One Part, and the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, of the other Part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the said United Company have granted a Commission to the said *A. B.* appointing him Captain of Foot in their Military Forces in the *East Indies*: Now this Indenture witnesseth, and the said *A. B.* in Compliance with a Resolution of a General Court of the said United Company, and for and in Consideration of what he is, or shall be, entitled to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said Service, or in respect of any other Military Station or Employment in which the said *A. B.* may hereafter be employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, Doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* shall not, nor will at any Time or Times hereafter, during his being employed in the said Company's Service, in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other Person or Persons whomsoever, in Trust for him or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift or Grant of Lands, or Rents or Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power, or Authority whatsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, for any Service or Services, or upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the Licence or Consent of the Court of Directors for the Time being of the said United Company, signified under their Hands; nor shall or will, at any Time or Times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's Service, in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, in Trust for him or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, in Money, Effects, Jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, exceeding the Value of Four thousand Rupees, for any Service or Services performed or to be performed by the said *A. B.* in *India*, or upon any other Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the like Licence or Consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signified as aforesaid; nor any such Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, exceeding the Value of One thousand Rupees, and under the Value of Four thousand Rupees, without the Licence or Consent of the President and Council for the Time being of the Presidency or Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall be employed; and that he the said *A. B.* shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts or Grants of Lands, or Rents or Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any such Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power or Authority

erty whatsoever; and also account for and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts, Rewards, Gratuities, Allowances, Donations, or Compensations whatsoever, which, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents, shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Power, of the said *A. B.* or any other Person or Persons, in Trust for him, or for his Use as aforesaid; Provided always that nothing herein contained shall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or construed, to hinder or prevent, the said *A. B.* from accepting or receiving a Share or Proportion, in respect of his Military Post or Station, of any Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, in Money, or Effects, which any *Indian* Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, shall or may, in Time of extreme Danger, Necessity, or Emergency, give or bestow on any of the Military Officers or Forces of the said United Company, provided such Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, be with the Privy and Consent of the Governor and Council of the Presidency or Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall be employed, and not otherwise; and provided also, that the same be not obtained or exacted by Compulsion, or by Way of Bargain or Contract for any Service or Services performed or to be performed: Provided also, that no Governor or President of any of the said United Company's Settlements in *India* shall, by Virtue of his Commission from the said United Company, be authorized or entitled to accept or receive any Part, Share, or Proportion, of any such Gift, Gratuity, or Donation, as is mentioned in the Preamble herein before contained. In Witness whereof, to one Part of this Indenture the said *A. B.* hath put his Hand and Seal, and to the other Part thereof the said United Company have caused their Common Seal to be affixed, the Day and Year abovewritten.

*A. B.* (L. S.)

Scaled and delivered (being  
first duly stamped) in the  
Presence of

*Memorandum:* Military Officers did not give  
Security for the Performance of the above  
Covenant.

I acknowledge to have read the within Covenant  
before I executed the same.

Witness,

*A. B.*

Military, 1767.

Writers 2d Covenant, from May 1764 to the  
present Time.

Civil, N<sup>o</sup> 1000. 1770.

This Indenture, made the Day of  
in the Year of the Reign of our Sovereign  
Lord by the Grace of God, King of *Great  
Britain, France, and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith,  
and so forth, and in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy, between *A. B.* of *London*, Writer, of the one Part, and the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies* of the other Part: Whereas the said *A. B.* is now employed in the Service of the said United Company as One of their Writers and Covenant Servants, at their chief Settlement of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, in the *East Indies*: Now this Indenture witnesseth, and the said *A. B.* in Compliance with a Resolution of a General Court of the said United Company, and for and in Consideration of what he is, or shall be, intitled to receive from the said Company, in respect of his said Service, or in respect of any other Station, Capacity, or Employment, in which the said *A. B.* may hereafter be retained or employed by the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* shall not, nor will at any Time or Times hereafter during his being employed in the said Company's Service,

in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or by any other Person or Persons whomsoever, in Trust for him, or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift or Grant of Lands, or Rents or Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power, or Authority whatsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, for any Service or Services, or upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the Licence or Consent of the Court of Directors for the Time being, of the said United Company, signified under their Hands; nor shall or will, at any Time or Times hereafter, during his being employed in the said United Company's Service, in any Station or Capacity whatsoever, either by himself or any other Person or Persons whomsoever in Trust for him, or for his Use, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, in Money, Effects, Jewels, or otherwise howsoever, from any of the *Indian* Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their Ministers, Servants, or Agents, exceeding the Value of Four thousand Rupees, for any Service or Services performed, or to be performed, by the said *A. B.* in *India*, or upon any other Account or Pretence whatsoever, without the like Licence or Consent of the said Court of Directors of the said United Company, signified as aforesaid; nor any such Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Donation, or Compensation, exceeding the Value of One thousand Rupees, and under the Value of Four thousand Rupees, without the Licence or Consent of the President and Council for the Time being, of the Presidency or Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall be employed; and that he the said *A. B.* shall and will convey, assign, and make over, to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts or Grants of Lands, or Rents or Revenues issuing out of Lands, or any such Territorial Possession, Jurisdiction, Dominion, Power, or Authority whatsoever; and also account for and pay to the said United Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts, Rewards, Gratuities, Allowances, Donations, or Compensations, whatsoever, which, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents, shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Power, of the said *A. B.* or any other Person or Persons in Trust for him, or for his Use as aforesaid. In Witness whereof, to one Part of these Indentures the said *A. B.* hath set his Hand and Seal, and to the other Part thereof the said United Company have caused their Common Seal to be put, the Day and Year above written.

*A. B.* (L. S.)

Scaled and delivered (being  
first duly stamped) in the  
Presence of

I acknowledge to have read the within Co-  
venant, before I executed the same.

Witness,

*A. B.*

Writers Covenant, from July 1770 to the present  
Time.

Factors, 1770.

This Indenture, made the Day of  
in the Year of our Lord One thousand  
Seven hundred and in the  
Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord  
by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and  
Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth,  
Between the United Company of Merchants of *England*,  
trading to the *East Indies*, of the one Part, and *A. B.*  
of *London*, Writer, of the other Part. Whereas the  
said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading  
to the *East Indies*, have (upon the special Request and  
Entreaty

Entreaty of the said *A. B.* and upon the Conditions and Agreements herein after contained, on the Part of the said *A. B.* to be performed) received and entertained him the said *A. B.* into their Service, as their Writer and Covenant Servant at their chief Settlement of *Fort William*, in *Bengal*, in the *East Indies*, to serve them for the Term of Five Years, and to be employed in all or any of the Traffic or Merchandizes, Business, and Affairs, in any Place or Places whatsoever, between the *Cape of Good Hope*, and the *Straits of Magellan*, as the said Company, or their Court of Directors for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, or any by them authorized, shall appoint, at and for the Wages or Sum of Five Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain*, by the Year, to commence from the Time of his Arrival at *Fort William* aforesaid. Now this Indenture witnesseth, that the said *A. B.* for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators; doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, and their Successors, in Manner and Form following; (that is to say) That he, the said *A. B.* from the Time of his Arrival at *Fort William* aforesaid, for, and during, and unto the full End and Expiration of Five Years, shall and will, faithfully, honestly, diligently, and carefully, serve the said Company, at such Place and Places, and in all and every such Affairs and Business whatsoever of the said Company, as the said *A. B.* shall be employed in: And shall also, from Time to Time, and at all Times, observe, keep, and fulfil, all and every the Orders of the said Company, and of the said Court of Directors, made and to be made for the Government of their Factories and Settlements, Officers, Agents, or Servants, Abroad: And shall and will also observe, keep, and fulfil, all such Orders, Instructions, and Directions, which he shall herewith, or hereafter, receive under the Seal of the said Company, or from the said Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, or from their President and Council, at the respective Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall reside or be employed, or from any Persons authorized thereunto by such Directors; and shall and will, to the utmost of his Power and Skill, resist and withstand all and every such Person or Persons, as shall break, or endeavour to break, the said Orders, Instructions, or Directions, or any of them: And the said *A. B.* doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he will not do, attempt, or practise, nor shall wittingly or willingly permit or suffer any other Person or Persons whatsoever, to do, attempt, or practise, any Matter or Thing whatsoever, to the Hindrance, Hurt, Prejudice, Damage, or Defrauding, of the said Company or their Successors, or of their Servants, or any of them, or of the said Company's Goods, Merchandizes, Trade, or Traffic, or any of them, or any Part thereof; but shall, as much as in him lieth, prevent and defeat the same. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, and all Times from henceforth, give Notice and Intelligence, with all convenient Speed, unto the said Court of Directors for the Time being, of all and every the Deceits, Wrongs, Abuses, Breach of Orders, Inconveniences, and Hindrances, which he the said *A. B.* shall know, understand, hear, or suspect to be done, practised, offered, or intended against the said Company, or their Successors, or their Goods or Trade, or any of them, or against any Person or Persons by them, or by the said Court of Directors, employed, or in their Service, in any Place or Places, together with the Names of those Persons by whom the same shall be

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so offered, practised, or intended. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he will not engage or employ the Stock of the said Company, or any Part thereof, or make use of the Credit of the said Company, in any other Kind, Way, or Manner, howsoever, than for the Affairs of the said Company, and as by the major Part of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, under their Hands, or under the common Seal of the said Company, or by their said President and Council, shall be ordered and directed. And that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, at all Times, keep and conceal the said Company's Secrets, and every Matter and Thing committed to him as such by the said Court of Directors, or their Agents, Factors, Officers, and Servants, or any of them. And also, That he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, and at all Times from henceforth, during his said Employment, keep, or cause to be kept, a true and particular Journal or Day Book, of all Passages and Proceedings relating to the Affairs of the said Company, and also Books of Accounts; in which Journal, Day Book, and Books of Accounts, he shall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter, or cause to be entered, the Accounts of all and every particular Buying, Selling, Receipts, Payments, Barterings, and all other Transactions and Occurrences relating to his Trust, during the Time he shall continue in the said United Company's Service and Employment. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he will not place, or consent to the Placing, to the said Company's Account, nor otherwise charge the said Company with any more or greater Sums than he shall really, and in good Faith, pay for all or any Goods, Merchandizes, or Effects, which he shall buy, or cause, procure, or consent, to be bought for, or on Account of, the said Company. And that he the said *A. B.* shall and will bring to the Account of the said Company, in the Books of the said Company, the full Rates and Prices for which he shall sell, or cause to be sold, any of the said Company's Goods, Merchandizes, or Effects: And further, that he the said *A. B.* will not directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Compensation, Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever, from any Person or Persons, of whom he the said *A. B.* shall, by himself, or any Agent for him, buy or barter any Goods, Merchandizes, Treasure, or Effects, for, or upon Account of, the said Company. And further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Compensation, Sum or Sums of Money, whatsoever, from any Person or Persons to whom the said *A. B.* shall, by himself, or any Agent for him, sell or barter any Goods, Merchandizes, Treasure, or Effects, of or belonging to, or for, or upon Account of, the said Company: And moreover, That he the said *A. B.* his Executors, or Administrators, shall produce and deliver the said Books, together with all Waste Books, Pocket Books, Diaries, Memorials, and other Writings and Papers whatsoever, wherein he the said *A. B.* shall make, or cause to be made, any Entries, or set down any Matter or Thing touching or concerning the said Company's Affairs, or any of them, or any Way relating thereunto (although the same may or shall be intermixed with his own, or others Concerns) unto the said Court of Directors, of the said Company for the Time being, or to such Person or Persons as shall, by Letter or Order, under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the said Court of Directors, or under the Seal of the said Company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the same; and shall and

Z z

will,

will, if required, make Oath to the Truth of such Books, Diaries, Memorials, Writings, and Papers, and that the same contain the Whole of his Transactions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, That he the said *A. B.* shall and will, well and truly deliver and pay unto the said United Company, or their Successors, all and every such Monies, Goods, Merchandizes, and Things whatsoever, as by the Foot of his Account, or otherwise, shall be due from him, or remain in his Hands and Possession, and for which he ought to be chargeable or answerable in any Manner or Manner. And also, That he the said *A. B.* shall and will (before he shall leave the said Company's Factories or Settlements) pay and discharge all and every such Sum or Sums of Money as he shall justly owe, or be indebted to any of the Black Merchants or Natives of the Country, where he the said *A. B.* shall be, together with such other Sums as he shall owe Abroad to any other Merchants or Persons not being Subjects of his Majesty the King of *Great Britain*, or his Successors: And that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, when and as often as he shall be thereunto required by the said Company or their Successors, or by the President, Agent, or Chief, and Council, of the Place where the said *A. B.* shall be, remove to any such other Factories, as such President, Agent, or Chief, and Council, shall so direct and require. And also, That he the said *A. B.* shall, at all Times, during the Time of his Service aforesaid, faithfully and diligently demean himself as a good honest and faithful Servant towards the said Company, and their Successors, and those by them authorized. And upon Condition, that the said *A. B.* shall in all Things perform his Covenants and Agreements with the said Company herein contained, and to encourage him so to do, It is further covenanted and agreed by and between the said Parties to these Presents, That it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said *A. B.* and the said Company doth accordingly license the said *A. B.* during the said Five Years, commencing as aforesaid, freely to trade and traffick, for his own Account only, from Port to Port in *India*, or elsewhere within the Limits aforesaid, but not to or from any Place without the same, without any Lett, Hindrance, or Interruption, from them the said Company, their Successors, or Assigns, so as the said Trade and Traffick so to be carried on and driven in *India*, or elsewhere within the Limits aforesaid, or any Part thereof, be subject to such Rules, Regulations, and Limitations, as the said Company, or the Court of Directors for the Time being of the said Company, have already directed, or shall from Time to Time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the Hurt or Prejudice of the said Company and their Successors, or of their Trade or Commerce, and so as whatever is so traded for by the said *A. B.* by Virtue of this Agreement, be particularly entered in Books of the said Company, to be kept for that Purpose, in all the Factories of the said Company respectively in the *East Indies*, or elsewhere within the Limits aforesaid, where such Trade shall be driven: But in case the said *A. B.* shall waste or make Use of the said Company's Treasure, or shall become indebted to the said Company, then, and in such Case, It is hereby further covenanted and agreed, by and between the said Parties to these Presents, That he the said *A. B.* shall not be entitled to any of the Payments, Advantages, and Benefits, hereby otherwise intended him; but contrarywise, for, and towards Satisfaction for what shall be due from him to the said Company, and for and towards Reparation of the Damages done to the said Company, it shall and may be lawful, to and for any Person or Persons thereunto authorized and appointed, by Writing under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or under the Seal of the said Company, and to and for any President, Agent, or Chief and Council, of any Place or Factory of, or belonging to, the said Company, to seize, or cause the

Goods and Chattels of him, the said *A. B.* to be seized and detained, until Satisfaction is made. And, so far as Complaints have been made to the said United Company, that several of the said Company's Presidents, and Chiefs of their Factories, and several of such Persons as are of their Councils in their Factories Abroad, or of some of them, as also their Factors, Agents, and Servants, have committed very heinous and grievous Offences in such Factories of the said Company, and elsewhere in the *East Indies*, and other Places within the said Company's Limits of Trade, by unjustly menacing, imprisoning, assaulting, abusing, and evil treating, the Natives and Black Merchants, and others, with whom the said Company have had Dealings or Correspondence, and by such Means, and other Violences, Abuses, and Injuries, have extorted and forced great Sums of Money, and other valuable Effects, from such injured Persons, who, by Reason of the great Distance from this Kingdom, and the wholesome Laws thereof, and by Reason that the said Company have not been enabled to obtain and render Satisfaction for such Injuries and Misdemeanors, are, and have been remedied: Now it is hereby agreed, by and between the said Parties to these Presents, and the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case any Sum or Sums of Money, Goods, or Chattels whatsoever, shall, at any Time or Times hereafter, be extorted, forced, or taken, by him the said *A. B.* (either separately, or jointly with others) from any Person or Persons whatsoever, within the said Company's Limits of Trade, by the Means or Use of Imprisonments, Assaults, Violences, Menaces, or other Force or Compulsion whatsoever, then, and as often as any such Offence or Offences shall be committed, it shall and may be lawful to and for every Person or Persons, injured thereby, to make and send over Complaints and Attestations thereof in Writing to the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, and that upon the Receipt of such Complaints and Attestations, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the Time being, to enquire into the Truth of the said Complaints by all such Ways and Means as they shall think just and equitable, and thereupon to hear the Matter of the said Complaint or Complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the same, and to award Satisfaction and Reparation to be made by the said *A. B.* to the said Company, for the Benefit of such injured Persons. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, well and truly to pay to the said Company, at such Time or Times as shall be limited by the said Court of Directors (or the major Part of them) for that Purpose, all and every such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be so awarded by the said Court of Directors for the Time being, or the major Part of them then assembled, to be paid as aforesaid; but in Trust nevertheless, and to the Intent, that the said Company may and do render, and pay over, the Monies received or recovered by them, to the Parties injured or defrauded, which the said Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the said *A. B.* doth furthermore for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, to pay and satisfy to the said Company, for their own Use and Benefit, all such Damages as they shall have sustained by Reason or Means of any such Offence or Offences as aforesaid. And so far as it is frequently happens, That the President and Council, Agent and Council, Chief and Council, and several other subordinate Officers of several of the said Company's Factories Abroad, have, by mutual Influences on each other, settled, stated, and adjusted, amongst themselves, their own Accounts with the said Company, in order,

as far as they could, to bar and preclude the said Company from reviewing, altering, amending, correcting, or contesting, the same: Now it is hereby further declared, That all and every such Account and Accounts, so at any Time stated, balanced, signed, or adjusted, by, between, or amongst, such Presidents and Councils, or Agents and Councils, or Chiefs and Councils, or other subordinate Officers, or any of them, and the said *A. B.* are hereby agreed to be, and shall at all Times hereafter be taken and esteemed to be, open Accounts, formed and prepared only for the Inspection, Perusal, and Approbation or Correction, of the said Company, and shall not in any Sort or Kind, or in any Article thereof, bind or conclude the said Company. And the said *A. B.* doth for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* will not at any Time, during his Residence in the *East Indies*, or within the said Company's Limits, directly or indirectly, trade, correspond, traffick, deal with or for, or be in any wise aiding, assisting, or employed as Agent, or Factor, by, or for any foreign Company trading in or to the *East Indies*, or any Person or Persons whatsoever, who do or shall, during the Continuance of these Presents, traffick, adventure, or trade to, in, or from, the *East Indies*, or elsewhere, within the Limits of the said Company's Trade, by or under, or by Virtue of, any Foreign Commission, Licence, or Authority whatsoever, nor shall or will, by himself, or in Conjunction with any Person or Persons whatsoever, directly or indirectly, carry on, or use or be concerned in, any Sort of Trade, Traffick, or Merchandize, either from *Europe* to the *East Indies*, or to any Place within the said Company's Limits, between the *Cape of Good Hope* and the *Straits of Magellan*, or from the *East Indies*, or from any Place within the said Company's Limits, to *Europe*, or to or from any Place whatsoever, although not within the said Company's Limits of Trade; save and except, for and on Account of the said Company; nor shall carry on, use, or be concerned in, any Trade or Traffick whatsoever, but such as is expressly allowed by and according to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents. And that he the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators, shall and will pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said Company, as and by Way of stated Damages, double the Value of all and every the Goods and Merchandizes traded for, bartered by the said *A. B.* his Agent or Agents, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents: Provided nevertheless, That if the said *A. B.* shall first voluntarily and freely make a Discovery, unto the said Company's Court of Directors, of any Trade or Traffick carried on by him or his Agents, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents, and of all and every the Persons therein concerned, then, and in such case, the said Company do hereby agree to accept the single Value, instead of the double Value of the said Goods and Merchandizes, which shall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents as aforesaid: And in order to a Discovery of, and a Satisfaction for, such illicit Trade as aforesaid, It is hereby agreed, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said United Company, and their Successors, to file any Bill or Bills of Complaint or Discovery, in his Majesty's High Court of Chancery, or Court of Exchequer, against him the said *A. B.* his Executors and Administrators, whereunto the said *A. B.* doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, shall or will demur or plead in Bar of the Discovery or Relief, sought by such Bill or Bills, that thereby he or they, is, are, may, or shall, become liable to any Penalty or Forfeiture, by Force of any Law or Statute, Bond, Covenant, or Agreement, or otherwise howsoever, but shall make and put in a full and perfect Answer and Answers to all the Parts thereof, and shall not, in such Answer and An-

swers, insist upon any Penalty, Forfeiture, Law, or Statute, Bond, Covenant, or Agreement, or allege any Matter whatsoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude, the said Company, from the Discovery or Relief, sought or to be sought by such Bill or Bills as aforesaid; but then, and in such Case, the said United Company do hereby consent to waive and disclaim all and all Manner of Penalties and Forfeitures, that shall or may, in any Kind or Degree whatsoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by Reason of, any Discovery or Disclosure arising by the said Answer or Answers of the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators: And the said United Company, for themselves and their Successors, do agree to accept, and the said *A. B.* doth, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, agree to account for, and pay, or cause to be paid, to or to the Use of the said Company, or their Successors, as, and for a full, stated, and adjusted Compensation and Satisfaction for the Damages sustained by the said Company, upon Account of the said illicit Trade, the Sum of Fifty Pounds for every One hundred Pounds Value, of all and every the Goods and Merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning hereof, and also of the Produce of the said illicit Trade. Provided always, and it is hereby expressly covenanted, declared, and agreed, between the Parties to these Presents, and it is the true Intent and Meaning thereof, that in case the said *A. B.* shall make Default in any of the Covenants herein before contained, or shall embezzle any of the said Company's Money, Goods, or Effects, or be guilty of any Breach of Trust towards the said Company, or shall be concerned in buying, bartering, selling, or disposing of any Artillery, Ordnance, Musquets, Fire Arms, Ammunition, or Warlike Stores, to or for the Use of any Prince, Nabob, or Country Power in *India*, or of the Natives there, without the express Licence of the said Company, or their Court of Directors for the Time being, or a Majority of them, or of the said Company's President and Council, at the respective Settlement where such buying, bartering, or selling, shall be; or in case the said *A. B.* shall, at any Time during the Continuance of these Presents, without the like Licence and Authority as aforesaid, hold Correspondence with any Prince, Nabob, or Country Power in *India*, or any of their Ministers, or shall supply, lend to, or procure, for the Use of any foreign Company trading in, or to *India*, or any Person or Persons trading under the Licence or Authority of such foreign Company, any Money, at Respondentia or any other Security, Loan, or Engagement whatsoever; that then, and in each and every of the said Cases, it shall be lawful for the said Company, and their said Court of Directors for the Time being, or the Majority of them, or the President and Council at the respective Settlement, where the said *A. B.* shall be resident or employed, and they are hereby respectively declared to have full Power and Authority for that Purpose, to suspend, or wholly dismiss, the said *A. B.* from the said Company's Service and Employment; the said *A. B.* having first had Notice given him of such his Offence or Default, and a reasonable Time allowed him to make his Defence against the same, and having been convicted thereof. And it is hereby further expressly covenanted and agreed, by and between the said Company, and the said *A. B.* that in case of such Dismissal as aforesaid, or in case the said *A. B.* shall, during the Continuance of these Presents, be minded to quit or resign the said Company's Service, and such Resignation shall be accepted and agreed to, by the said Company or their Court of Directors, or their President and Council at such Settlement, where the said *A. B.* shall reside or be employed, that then, and in either of the said Cases of Dismissal from, or voluntary Resignation of, the said Service, it shall not be lawful for the said *A. B.* to enter into any new or fresh Engagements or Concerns whatsoever,

soever, in the Way of Trade or Merchandize; but he shall wholly forbear and be prohibited therefrom; but nevertheless, the said *A. B.* shall, in any or either of the said Cases, be at Liberty, and have Power and Authority to sell and dispose of his Merchandizes and Effects, which he shall have on Hand, or which shall be then fairly and truly belonging to him, and to collect and get in such outstanding Debts as shall be then due and owing to him in Trade, or otherwise. And for the more effectually carrying the said last mentioned Covenant and Agreement into Execution, it is hereby declared to be the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents; and the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in case of such Diffinition from, or quitting and resigning, the said Company's Service and Employment, he the said *A. B.* shall and will, within One Year after the same shall happen, or by the first Passage that can be obtained after the Expiration of the said One Year, transport himself, together with his Family, to *Great Britain*, in such Ship employed by the said Company, as shall be appointed for that Purpose, by the said Company, or by their Court of Directors, or their President and Council as aforesaid; and shall not, nor will upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever, stay, or continue any longer in the *East Indies*: And moreover, in case the said *A. B.* shall make Default in the said last mentioned Covenant, the said *A. B.* doth hereby consent and agree with the said United Company, that from and immediately after such Default, it shall and may be lawful for the said Company, or their Court of Directors, or their President and Council at the said Settlement where the said *A. B.* shall reside or be, to cause the said *A. B.* to be apprehended and detained, and to put him and his Family on Board any Ship employed by the said Company, for the Purpose of being transported to *Great Britain*, to nevertheless that no unnecessary Delay be fought, nor any lit Occasion or Opportunity lost in so doing. And further, in case of such Apprehending, Putting on Board, and Transporting, the said *A. B.* and his Family, in Manner aforesaid; the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* his Executors, or Administrators, shall not, nor will commence, sue, or prosecute the said Company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their Presidents and Council, Commanders or Officers of any such Ship, or any other Person employed in any of the Matters aforesaid, in or by any Action, Suit, or other Prosecution, civil or criminal, in respect of such Apprehending and Detaining him the said *A. B.* or of Putting on Board and Transporting him the said *A. B.* and his Family, to *Great Britain*, in Manner aforesaid; and in case any such Action, Suit, or Prosecution, shall be commenced, sued, or prosecuted, for any of the Matters aforesaid, the said *A. B.* doth hereby covenant and agree to and with the said Company, that the General Issue may be pleaded, and that this present Indenture, or any other special Matter, may be given in Evidence by any of the Defendants in any such Suit, Action, or Prosecution. Provided always and lastly, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the said Parties hereto, and it is their true Intent and Meaning, That if the said *A. B.* shall continue in the said Company's Service after the Expiration of the said Term of Five Years, that such Continuance shall be upon the same Terms, Conditions, and Agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the said Term of Five Years, save and except, that if the said *A. B.* shall rise to any superior Place or Office than what he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then he the said *A. B.* performing the Covenants aforesaid, shall have and receive such Wages as are usually paid to Officers in the like advanced Stations, Places, or Employments. In Witness whereof, the said United Company have to One Part of these Indentures

set their Common Seal; and the said *A. B.* hath to the other Part of the said Indenture set his Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above-written.

*A. B. (L. S.)*

Sealed and delivered (being stamp'd according to Act of Parliament) in the Presence of Us,

I acknowledge to have read the within Covenant before I executed the same.

Witness, *A. B.*

Writers Covenant from 1756 to July 1770.

1000 Factor's Covenants. 1770.

This Indenture, made the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ and in the \_\_\_\_\_

Year of the Reign of our Sovereign \_\_\_\_\_ by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; Between the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, of the one Part, and *A. B.* of *London*, Writer, of the other Part. Whereas the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, have (upon the special Request and Entreaty of the said *A. B.* and upon the Conditions and Agreements hereinafter contained, on the Part of the said *A. B.* to be performed) received and entertained him the said *A. B.* into their Service, as their Writer and Covenant Servant, at their chief Settlement of *Fort William* in *Bengal* in the *East Indies*, to serve them for the Term of Five Years, and to be employed in all or any of the Traffic or Merchandizes, Businesses, and Affairs, in any Place or Places whatsoever, between the *Cape of Good Hope*, and the *Straits of Magellan*, as the said Company, or their Court of Directors for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, or any by them authorized, shall appoint, at and for the Wage or Sum of Five Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain*, by the Year, to commence from the Time of his Arrival at *Fort William* aforesaid. Now this Indenture witnesseth, That the said *A. B.* for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, and their Successors, in Manner and Form following; (that is to say) That he the said *A. B.* from the Time of his Arrival at *Fort William* aforesaid, for, and during, and unto the full End and Expiration of Five Years, shall faithfully, honestly, diligently, and carefully, serve the said Company at such Place and Places, and in all and every such Affairs and Businesses whatsoever of the said Company, as the said *A. B.* shall be employed in; and shall also from Time to Time, and at all Times, observe, keep, and fulfil, all and every the Orders of the said Company, and of the said Court of Directors, made and to be made, for the Government of their Factories and Settlements, Officers, Agents, or Servants abroad; and shall and will also observe, keep, and fulfil, all such Orders, Instructions, and Directions, which he shall herewith or hereafter receive under the Seal of the said Company, or from the said Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, or from any Persons authorized thereunto by such Directors; and shall and will, to the utmost of his Power and Skill, resist and withstand all and every such Person, or Persons, as shall break or endeavour to break, the said Orders, Instructions, or Directions, or any of them, and the said *A. B.* doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he will not do, attempt, or practise, nor shall wittingly or willingly permit or suffer any other Person or Persons whatsoever, to do, attempt, or practise, any Matter or Thing whatsoever, to the Hindrance, Hurt, Prejudice, Damage, or defrauding of the said Company

Company, or their Successors, or of their Servants, or any of them, or of the said Company's Goods, Merchandizes, Trade, or Traffick, or any of them, or any Part thereof; but shall, as much as in him lies, prevent and defeat the same. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, and at all Times from henceforth, give Notice and Intelligence, with all convenient Speed, unto the said Court of Directors for the Time being, of all and every the Deceits, Wrongs, Abuses, Breach of Orders, Inconveniences, and Hindrances, which he the said *A. B.* shall know, understand, hear, or suspect to be done, practised, offered, or intended, against the said Company, or their Successors, or their Goods or Trade, or any of them, or against any Person or Persons by them or by the said Court of Directors employed, or in their Service, in any Place or Places, together with the Names of those Persons by whom the same shall be so offered, practised, or intended. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*, that he will not engage or employ, either the Stock of the said Company, or any Part thereof, or make use of the Credit of the said Company, in any Kind, or other Way and Manner howsoever, than for the Affairs of the said Company, and as by the major Part of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, under their Hands, or under the Common Seal of the said Company, shall be ordered and directed. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, at all Times, keep and conceal the said Company's Secrets, and every Matter and Thing committed to him as such by the said Court of Directors, or their Agents, Factors, Officers, and Servants, or any of them. And also, That he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, and at all Times from henceforth, during his said Employment, keep, or cause to be kept, a true and particular Journal or Day Book, of all Passages and Proceedings relating to the Affairs of the said Company, and also Books of Accounts; in which Journal, Day Book, and Books of Accounts, he shall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter, or cause to be entered, the Accounts of all and every particular Buying, Selling, Receipts, Payments, Barterings, and all other Transactions and Occurrences relating to his Trust, during the Time he shall continue in the said United Company's Service and Employment: And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he will not place, or consent to the placing, to the said Company's Account, nor otherwise charge the said Company with any more or greater Sums than he shall really, and in good Faith, pay for all or any Goods, Merchandizes, or Effects, which he shall buy, or cause, procure, or consent to be bought, for, or on Account of, the said Company. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that he shall and will bring to the Account of the said Company, in the Books of the said Company, the full Rates and Prices for which he shall sell, or cause to be sold, any of the said Company's Goods, Merchandizes, or Effects. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, further covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, that

he will not, directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Compensation, Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever, from any Person or Persons, of whom he the said *A. B.* shall, by himself, or any Agent for him, buy or barter, any Goods, Merchandizes, Treasure, or Effects, for, or upon Account of, the said Company; and further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any Gift, Reward, Gratuity, Allowance, Compensation, Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever, from any Person or Persons to whom he the said *A. B.* shall, directly or indirectly, by himself, or any Agent for him, sell or barter any Goods, Merchandizes, Treasure, or Effects, of or belonging to, or for, or upon Account of, the said Company. And the said *A. B.* for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, That he the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators, shall produce and deliver the said Books, together with all Waste Books, Pocket Books, Diaries, Memorials, and other Writings and Papers whatsoever, wherein he the said *A. B.* shall make, or cause to be made, any Entries, or set down any Matter or Thing, touching or concerning the said Company's Affairs, or any of them, or any Way relating thereunto (although the same may or shall be intermixed with his own, or others Concerns) unto the said Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or to such Person or Persons, as shall by Letter or Order, under the Hands of Thirteen, or more, of the said Court of Directors, or under the Seal of the said Company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the same; and shall and will, if required, make Oath to the Truth of such Books, Diaries, Memorials, Writings, and Papers, and that the same contain the Whole of his Transactions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, that he the said *A. B.* shall and will well and truly deliver and pay unto the said United Company, or their Successors, all and every such Monies, Goods, Merchandizes, and Things whatsoever, as by the Foot of his Account, or otherwise, shall be due from him, or remain in his Hands and Possession, and for which he ought to be chargeable or answerable in any manner or wise: And also, that he the said *A. B.* shall and will (before he shall leave the said Company's Factories or Settlements) pay and discharge all and every such Sum or Sums of Money as he shall justly owe, or be indebted to any of the black Merchants or Natives of the Country where he the said *A. B.* shall be, together with such other Sums as he shall owe abroad to any other Merchants or Persons not being Subjects of His Majesty the King, of *Great Britain*, or his Successors; and that he the said *A. B.* shall and will, from Time to Time, when and as often as he shall be thereunto required by the said Company, or their Successors, or by the President, Agent, or Chief, and Council, of the Place where the said *A. B.* shall be, remove to any such other Factories, as such President, Agent, or Chief, and Council, shall so direct or require. And also, That he the said *A. B.* shall, at all Times, during the Time of his Service aforesaid, faithfully and diligently demean himself as a good, honest, and faithful, Servant towards the said Company, and their Successors, and those by them authorized, and lovingly and peaceably towards his Consorts. And upon Condition, that the said *A. B.* shall in all Things perform his Covenants and Agreements with the said Company, and to encourage him so to do, It is further covenanted and agreed, by and between the said Parties to these Presents, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said *A. B.* and the said Company doth accordingly license the said *A. B.* during the said Five Years, commencing as aforesaid, freely to trade and traffick, for his own Account only, from Port to Port in *India*, or elsewhere, within the Limits aforesaid, but not to or from any Place without the same, without any Lett,

Hindrance, or Interruption, from them the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, so as the said Trade and Traffick, so to be carried on and driven in *India* or elsewhere, within the Limits aforesaid, or any Part thereof, be subject to such Rules, Regulations, and Limitations, as the said Company, or the Court of Directors for the Time being of the said Company, have already directed, or shall from Time to Time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the Hurt or Prejudice of the said Company and their Successors, or of their Trade or Commerce; and so as whatever is so traded for by the said *A. B.* by Virtue of this Agreement, be particularly entered in Books of the said Company, to be kept for that Purpose in all the Factories of the said Company respectively in the *East Indies*, or elsewhere within the Limits aforesaid, where such Trade shall be driven: But in Case the said *A. B.* shall waste or make Use of the said Company's Treasure, or shall become indebted to the said Company, or shall in any wise make default in Performance of the Covenants aforesaid, then, and in such Case, it is hereby further covenanted and agreed, by and between the said Parties to these Presents, That he the said *A. B.* shall not be entitled to any Payments, Advantages, and Benefits, hereby otherwise intended him; but contrarywise, for and towards Satisfaction for what shall be due from him to the said Company, and for and towards Reparation of the Damages done to the said Company, it shall and may be lawful to and for any Person or Persons thereunto authorized and appointed, by Writing, under the Hands of Thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or under the Seal of the said Company, and to and for any President, Agent, or Chief, and Council, of any Place or Factory of or belonging to the said Company, to seize or cause the Goods and Chattels of him the said *A. B.* to be seized and detained, until Satisfaction is made. And forasmuch as grievous Complaints have been made to the said United Company, that several of the said Company's Presidents and Chiefs of their Factories, and several of such Persons as are of their Councils in their Factories Abroad, or some of them, as also their Factors, Agents, and Servants, have committed very heinous and grievous Offences in such Factories of the said Company, and elsewhere in the *East Indies*, and other Places within the said Company's Limits of Trade, by unjustly menacing, imprisoning, assaulting, abusing, and evil treating, the Natives and black Merchants, and others with whom the said Company have had Dealings or Correspondence; and by such Means, and other Violences, Abuses, and Injuries, have, as hath been alleged, extorted and forced great Sums of Money, and other valuable Effects, from such injured Persons, who by Reason of the great Distance from this Kingdom, and the wholesome Laws thereof, and by Reason that the said Company have not been enabled to obtain and render Satisfaction for such Injuries and Misdemeanors, are and have been remediless: Now it is hereby agreed by and between the said Parties to these Presents, and the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that in Case any Sum or Sums of Money, Goods or Chattels whatsoever, shall at any Time or Times hereafter, be extorted, forced, or taken, by him the said *A. B.* (either separately or jointly with others) from any Person or Persons whatsoever, within the said Company's Limits of Trade, by the Means or Use of Imprisonments, Assaults, Violence, Menaces, or other Force or Compulsion whatsoever, then and as often as any such Offence or Offences shall be committed, it shall and may be lawful, to and for every Person or Persons injured thereby, to make and send over Complaints and Attestations thereof in Writing, to the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, and that upon the Receipt of such Complaints, and Attestations, it shall and may

be lawful to and for the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the Time being, to enquire into the Truth of the said Complaints, by all such Ways and Means as they shall think just and equitable, and thereupon to hear the Matter of the said Complaint or Complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the same, and to award Satisfaction and Reparation to be made by the said *A. B.* to the said Company, for the Benefit of such injured Persons. And the said *A. B.* doth hereby, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, well and truly to pay to the said Company, at such Time or Times as shall be limited by the said Court of Directors (or the major Part of them) for that Purpose, all and every such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be so awarded by the said Court of Directors for the Time being, or the major Part of them then assembled, to be paid as aforesaid: But in Truth nevertheless, and to the Intent, that the said Company may and do render, and pay over, the Monies received or recovered by them, to the Parties injured or defrauded, which the said Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the said *A. B.* doth furthermore, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, to pay and satisfy to the said Company, for their own Use and Benefit, all such Damages as they shall have sustained by Reason or Means of any such Offence or Offences as aforesaid. And forasmuch as it frequently happens, That the President and Council, Agent and Council, Chief and Council, and several other subordinate Officers of several of the said Company's Factories Abroad, have, by mutual Influences on each other, settled, stated, and adjusted amongst themselves, their own Accounts with the said Company, in order, as far as they could, to bar and preclude the said Company from reviewing, altering, amending, correcting, or contesting, the same: Now it is hereby further declared, That all and every such Account and Accounts, so at any Time heretofore stated, balanced, signed, or adjusted, as aforesaid, were ever designed by the said Company to be, and the same, and all and every such Account and Accounts, so hereafter to be stated, balanced, signed or adjusted, by, between, or amongst, such Presidents and Councils, or Agents and Councils, or Chiefs and Councils, or other subordinate Officers, or any of them, are hereby agreed to be, and shall at all Times hereafter be, taken and esteemed to be, open Accounts, formed and prepared only for the Inspection, Perusal, and Approbation or Correction, of the said Company, and shall not in any Sort or Kind, or in any Article thereof, bind or conclude the said Company. And the said *A. B.* doth, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, covenant and agree, to and with the said United Company, that he the said *A. B.* will not at any Time, during his Residence in the *East Indies*, or within the said Company's Limits, directly or indirectly, by himself, or in Conjunction with any Person or Persons whatsoever, carry on or use, or be concerned in, any Sort of Trade, Traffick, or Merchandize, either from *Europe* to the *East Indies*, or to any Place within the said Company's Limits, between the *Cape of Good Hope*, and the *Straits of Magellan*, or from the *East Indies*, or from any Place within the said Company's Limits, to *Europe*, or to or from any Place whatsoever, altho' not within the said Company's Limits of Trade, save and except for, and on Account of, the said Company, nor shall carry on, use, or be concerned in, any Trade or Traffick whatsoever, but such as is expressly allowed by and according to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents. And the said *A. B.* for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, that he the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators, shall and will pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said Company, as and by Way of stated Damages, double the Value of all and



every the Goods and Merchandizes traded for, bartered, or trafficked with, by the said *A. B.* his Agent or Agents, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents, and moreover, shall forfeit and lose all and every the Benefits and Advantages which the said *A. B.* his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, would otherwise be entitled unto, from the said Company, and shall also from thenceforth cease to be the said Company's Servant or Agent: Provided nevertheless, That if the said *A. B.* shall first voluntarily and freely make a Discovery, unto the said Company's Court of Directors, of any Trade or Traffick, carried on by him or his Agents, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents, and of all and every the Persons therein concerned, then and in such Case the said Company do hereby agree to accept the single Value, instead of the double Value, of the said Goods and Merchandizes, which shall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true Meaning of these Presents, as aforesaid: And in order to a Discovery of, and a Satisfaction for, such illicit Trade as aforesaid, It is hereby agreed, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the said United Company, and their Successors, to file any Bill or Bills of Complaint or Discovery, in his Majesty's High Court of Chancery or Court of Exchequer, against him the said *A. B.* his Executors and Administrators, whereunto the said *A. B.* doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, shall or will demur or plead in Bar of the Discovery or Relief, sought by such Bill or Bills, that thereby he or they is, are, may, or shall become liable to any Penalty or Forfeiture, by Force of any Law or Statute, Bond, Covenant, or Agreement, or otherwise howsoever, but shall make and put in a full and perfect Answer and Answers to all the Parts thereof, and shall not, in such Answer and Answers, insist upon any Penalty, Forfeiture, Law, or Statute, Bond, Covenant, or Agreement, or allege any Matter whatsoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude the said Company, from the Discovery or Relief, sought, or to be sought, by such Bill or Bills as aforesaid; but then, and in such Case, the said United Company do hereby consent to waive and disclaim all and all Manner of Penalties and Forfeitures, that shall or may, in any Kind or Degree whatsoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by Reason of, any Discovery or Disclosure arising by the said Answer or Answers, of the said *A. B.* his Executors or Administrators; and the said United Company, for themselves and their Successors, do agree to accept, and the said *A. B.* doth for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, agree to account for, and pay or cause to be paid to, or to the Use of, the said Company, or their Successors, as and for a full, stated, and adjusted Compensation and Satisfaction for the Damages sustained by the said Company, upon Account of the said illicit Trade, the Sum of Fifty Pounds for every One hundred Pounds Value, of all and every the Goods and Merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning hereof, and also of the Produce of the said illicit Trade. Provided always and lastly, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the said Parties hereto, and it is their true Intent and Meaning, That if the said *A. B.* shall continue in the said Company's Service after the Expiration of the said Term of Five Years, that such Continuance shall be upon the same Terms, Conditions, and Agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the said Term of Five Years, save and except, that if the said *A. B.* shall rise to any superior Place or Office than what he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then he the said *A. B.* performing the Covenants aforesaid, shall have and receive such Wages as are usually paid to Officers in the like advanced Stations, Places, or Employments. In Witness whereof, the said United Company have to one Part of these Indentures set their Common Seal; and the said *A. B.* hath to the other Part of the

said Indentures set his Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first abovementioned. *A. B. (L. S.)*

Sealed and delivered (being stamped according to Act of Parliament) in the Presence of us,

I do acknowledge to have read the within Covenant before I executed the same.

Witness, *A. B.*

Amount of the Securities taken from the respective Ranks of the East India Company's Civil Servants.

A Governor	—	—	—	£. 10,000
Counsellor	—	—	—	4,000
Senior Merchant	—	—	—	3,000
Junior Merchant	—	—	—	2,000
Factor	—	—	—	1,000
Writer	—	—	—	500

Mem<sup>o</sup> Military Officers do not give Security for the Performance of their Covenants.

Copies of the separate Commissions of Commander in Chief of the Military Forces of the East India Company, at their different Prefidencies, and of such Commissions of Commander in Chief as may have comprehended all their Forces in India.

The United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies,

To Major General *Stringer Lawrence*, send Greeting.

We, the said United Company, repoling especial Trust and Confidence in you Major General *Stringer Lawrence*, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces in the East Indies, under our respective Prefidencies; that is to say, our Prefidency of *Fort Saint George*, on the Coast of *Choremandel*, and the several Settlements and Places subordinate to the said Prefidency, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said Prefidency, Settlements, or Places, and during such Time or Times only; our Prefidency of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, and the several Settlements and Places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said Prefidency, Settlements, or Places, and during such Time or Times only; our Prefidency at *Bombay*, and the several Settlements and Places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present and reside at the said Prefidency, Settlements, or Places, and during such Time or Times only; our Prefidency of *Fort Marlborough*, and the several Settlements and Places subordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you shall be present, or reside at the said Prefidency, Settlements, or Places, and during such Time or Times only. And you Major General *Stringer Lawrence* are, to the utmost of your Skill and Power, to do and perform all such Offices and Services as appertain to the Post of Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces in the East Indies as aforesaid, subject however to all such Rules, Orders, and Instructions, as you shall at any Time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, in Writing, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of them, or from the said Company's Presidents and Councils of *Fort Saint George*, *Fort William*, *Bombay*, or *Fort Marlborough*, respectively, whenever you shall be present at such respective Prefidency, or any of the Settlements or Places subordinate thereto, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust we hereby repose in you: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command all Commission Officers, Non Commission Officers, Soldiers, and others, belonging to our Military Forces at the several Places before mentioned, to yield you, as their Commander in Chief, during your Residence at such Places as aforesaid, due Obedience accordingly. In Witness, &c.

Dated the 11th March 1761.

The

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*,

To *Joseph Smith*, Esquire, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Courage, and Experience in Military Affairs, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our Service, and do give and grant you full Power and Authority, to take your Rank as Brigadier General.

You are therefore to take upon you the said Charge and Command of Brigadier General as aforesaid, and carefully and diligently to discharge the said Trust of Brigadier General, by doing all Things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our Officers and Soldiers to obey you as Brigadier General. And you are to observe and follow all such Orders and Directions as you shall from Time to Time receive from us, our Governor and Council of *Fort Saint George*, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you; or failing therein, our said Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul these Presents. Given under our Common Seal, this Third Day of *November*, in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty, Our Sovereign Lord *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty eight.

By order of the Court of Directors

of the said United Company.

*P. Mitchell*, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*,

To Major General *Eyre Coote*, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in you Major General *Eyre Coote*, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces in the *East Indies*, and you are, to the utmost of your Skill and Power, to do and perform all such Offices and Services as appertain to the Post of Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces in the *East Indies* as aforesaid, subject however to all such Rules, Orders, and Instructions, as you shall at any Time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, in Writing, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of them, or from the Commissioners appointed to superintend their Affairs in *India*, or from the said Company's Presidents and Councils of *Fort Saint George, Fort William, Bombay, or Fort Marlborough*, respectively, whenever you shall be present at such respective Presidency, or any of the Settlements or Places subordinate thereto, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust we hereby reposit in you: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command, all Commission Officers, Non Commission Officers, Soldiers, and others, belonging to our Military Forces, at the several Places before mentioned, to yield you, as their Commander in Chief, during your Residence at such Places as aforesaid, due Obedience accordingly: In Witness whereof, the said United Company have caused their Common Seal to be affixed in *London*, this 22d Day of *December*, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-nine.

(*L. S.*)

By Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Peter Mitchell*, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*,

To *Eyre Coote*, Esquire, Lieutenant Colonel in His Majesty's Service, and Commandant of the Eighty-fourth Regiment of Foot, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you *Eyre Coote*, Esquire, to be Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces, at our Presidency of *Fort William in Bengal*, and the several Places and Settlements subordinate thereto; you are therefore, to the utmost of your Skill and Power, to do and perform all such Offices and Services as appertain to the Post of Commander in Chief of all our Military Forces in *Bengal*, as aforesaid, subject however to all such Rules, Orders, and Instructions, which you shall at any Time receive from the Court of Directors of the said United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*, for the Time being, or from our Governor and Council of *Fort William* aforesaid, for the Time being: And we do hereby strictly require, charge, and command, all Commission Officers, Non Commission Officers, Soldiers, and others, belonging to our Military Forces in *Bengal* aforesaid, to yield you, as their Commander in Chief as aforesaid, due Obedience accordingly. In Witness whereof, We have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the 14th Day of *March*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Fifty-nine, and in the Thirty-second Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *George the Second*, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

(*L. S.*)

Signed by Order of the Court of

Directors of the said Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*,

To Sir *Robert Barker*, Knight, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Courage and Experience in Military Affairs, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our Service, and do give and grant you full Power and Authority to take your Rank as Brigadier General; you are therefore to take upon you the said Charge and Command of Brigadier General as aforesaid; and carefully and diligently to discharge the said Trust of Brigadier General, by doing all Things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our Officers and Soldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to observe and follow all such Orders and Directions, as you shall from Time to Time receive from us, our Governor and Council of *Fort William*, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you; or failing therein, our said Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul these Presents. Given under our Common Seal this Twenty-third Day of *March*, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lord *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy.

*L. S.*

By Order of the Court of Directors

of the said United Company.

*P. Mitchell*, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*,

To *David Wedderburn*, Esquire, Greeting.

We, the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Courage and Experience

in

in Military Affairs, do by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our Service, and do give and grant you full Power and Authority to take your Rank as Brigadier General; you are therefore to take upon you the said Charge and Command of Brigadier General as aforesaid, and carefully and diligently to discharge the said Trust of Brigadier General, by doing all Things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our Officers and Soldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to observe and follow all such Orders and Directions as you shall from Time to Time receive from us, our Governor and Council of *Bombay*, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you; or failing therein, our said Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul these Presents. Given under our Common Seal this Twenty-eighth Day of *March*, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of His Most Excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lord *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy.

(L. S.)

By Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.  
*P. Mitchell*, Secretary.

Copies of the Commissions from the *East India* Company, appointing a President or Governor at each of their respective Presidencies, and the Council, issued by the said Company since the Year 1756.

The United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*,

To all, to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting.

Know ye, That the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Robert Palk*, Esquire, have made, constituted and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Robert Palk*, to be President and Governor of and for all our Affairs on the Coast of *Choromandel* and *Orixa*, and of the *Chingee* and *Moratta* Countries; and also to be our Commander in Chief of our *Fort Saint George*, and Town of *Madraspatnam*, and all the Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Forts, Factories, and Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be employed, for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Forts, Towns, and Places; and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the Exercise of the same, during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being: And to the End that the said *Robert Palk* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said Company; we do by these Presents constitute and ordain Major General *Stringer Lawrence* to be, and continue, Second of our Council of *Fort Saint George*, and not at any Time to rise to a superior Rank therein, *Charles Bourcier*, Esquire, to be Third, Brigadier General *John Caillaud*, to be Fourth, of our said Council, and not to rise at any Time to a superior Rank than Third of the said Council; and that his said Succession as Third do take Place only on

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the Death or Absence of the said Major General *Stringer Lawrence*; Mr. *Dawsonne Drake*, Fifth; Mr. *John Pybus*, Sixth; Mr. *Richard Fairfield*, Seventh; Mr. *Samuel Ardley*, Eighth; Mr. *Charles Turner*, Ninth; Mr. *John Smith*, Tenth; Mr. *John Iwein Smith*, Eleventh; Mr. *John Call*, Twelfth; and Mr. *George Stratton*, Thirteenth and last, of our said Council of *Fort Saint George*, for governing and managing all the said Company's Affairs, upon the Coast of *Choromandel*, *Orixa*, *Chingee*, and *Moratta*, Countries, and governing the said *Fort Saint George*, and City of *Madraspatnam*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, within any of the said Territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, *Robert Palk*, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors, or Servants, under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George*, and City of *Madraspatnam*, and elsewhere, within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths, as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council, in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have or shall have Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do according to such Instructions and Directions as he the said *Robert Palk*, our President and Governor, and Council, aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being: And we, the said United Company, do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George*, and City of *Madraspatnam*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience, unto the said *Robert Palk*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly. And so far as it is altogether necessary, that in Case of the Death or Removal of the said *Robert Palk*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof; we do therefore, by these Presents, ordain and appoint, that in such Case, the said *Charles Bourcier* shall immediately be, and succeed in the Place and Charge of, President and Governor of *Fort Saint George* aforesaid; and in Case of his Death or Removal, the next Civil Servant in Degree of Council below the said *Charles Bourcier* and Brigadier General *John Caillaud*, to succeed in the said Presidency and Government, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Power, Privileges, and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Robert Palk*, until our further Pleasure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former Commission or Commissions, given or granted by us, whereby any other Person or Persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other Persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council of *Fort Saint George*, aforesaid: In Witness whereof, we, the said United Company, have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the Fourth Day of *January*, in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-five.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.  
*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Fort Saint George*, dated the 4th January 1765.

Having thought proper to make out a Commission under the Seal of the Company, whereby the Governor and Council for all the Company's Affairs at the Presidency of *Fort Saint George*, named in our Letters of the 31st December 1760, and 13th March following, are confirmed, and others appointed, as mentioned in the said Commission:—We lend the same by the Ship *Albion*, and an attested Copy thereof by the *Royal Captain*.

By the said Commission, the under named Persons are confirmed in, and appointed to, the following Stations in the Company's Service at our Presidency of *Fort Saint George*: viz.

*Robert Palk*, Esquire, President and Governor.

Major General *Stringer Lawrence*, to be Second in Council, and not at any Time to rise to a superior Rank therein.

*Charles Bourcbier*, Esquire, to be Third in Council, and to succeed to the Government in Case of a Vacancy therein by the Decease or otherwise of Mr. *Palk*.

Brigadier General *John Caillaud*, to be Fourth in Council, and not to rise at any Time to a superior Rank therein than Third; and his said Succession as Third to take Place only in Case of the Death or Absence of General *Lawrence*.

Mr. <i>Dawsonne Drake</i> ,	Fifth in Council.
Mr. <i>John Pybus</i> ,	Sixth.
Mr. <i>Richard Fairfield</i> ,	Seventh.
Mr. <i>Samuel Ardley</i> ,	Eighth.
Mr. <i>Charles Turner</i> ,	Ninth.
Mr. <i>John Smith</i> ,	Tenth.
Mr. <i>John Lewin Smith</i> ,	Eleventh.
Mr. <i>John Call</i> ,	Twelfth.
Mr. <i>George Stratton</i> ,	Thirteenth.

Major General *Lawrence* and Brigadier General *Caillaud* are to be of Council only as described in the beforementioned Commission and the preceding Paragraph; it being our Meaning and Directions, that agreeable to our former Orders, neither of those Gentlemen should succeed to the Government, as that Post is always to be filled by one of our Civil Servants; and consequently, in Case of a Vacancy therein, by the Death or otherwise, of Messrs *Palk* and *Bourcbier*, the next Civil Servant in the Council below the last named Gentlemen, and General *Caillaud*, is to succeed thereto, until our further Pleasure is signified.

In Case of the Death or Coming away of General *Lawrence* and General *Caillaud*, you will observe by our Letter of the 21st November last, no other Military Officer or Officers are to have a Seat or Voice at the Board without our express Leave; which Directions are to be strictly observed.

The United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*, To all to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting. Knowye, That the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Charles Bourcbier*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Charles Bourcbier* to be President and Governor of and for all our Affairs on the Coast of *Cboromandel* and *Orixa*, and of the *Chingee* and *Moratta* Countries; and also to be our Commander in Chief of our *Fort Saint George* and Town of *Madraspatnam*, and all the Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Ports, Factories, Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof; and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company in the said Ports, Towns, and Places, and to execute all

and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being: And to the End that the said *Charles Bourcbier* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said Company, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain *Jefas Du Pré*, Esquire, to be Second of our Council of *Fort Saint George*, next after our said President *Charles Bourcbier*, Mr. *John Call* to be Third of our said Council, Mr. *Dawsonne Drake* to be Fourth, and not to rise to a superior Rank therein, Mr. *Alexander Wynch* to be Fifth, Mr. *John Andrews* to be Sixth, Mr. *John Pybus* to be Seventh, Mr. *Samuel Ardley* to be Eighth, Mr. *John Smith* to be Ninth, Mr. *John Lewin Smith* to be Tenth, Mr. *George Stratton* to be Eleventh, Mr. *George Dawson* to be Twelfth, Mr. *James Bourcbier* to be Thirteenth, Mr. *Henry Brooke* to be Fourteenth, and Mr. *George Markay* to be Fifteenth and last, of our said Council of *Fort Saint George*, and not at any Time to rise to an higher Rank therein, for governing and managing all the said Company's Affairs upon the Coast of *Cboromandel*, *Orixa*, *Chingee*, and *Moratta* Countries, and governing the said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam*, and all other our Ports, Factories, and Settlements within any of the said Factories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, *Charles Bourcbier*, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors or Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam* and elsewhere, within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities as the said President and Governor and his Council, in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have or shall have Factories, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as he the said *Charles Bourcbier*, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive, under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being: And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam*, or any other our Ports, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Charles Bourcbier*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And so farasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in Case of the Death or Removal of the said *Charles Bourcbier*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof; we do therefore by these Presents ordain and appoint, that in such Case, the said *Jefas Du Pré* shall immediately be, and succeed in the Place and Charge of, President and Governor of *Fort Saint George* aforesaid; and in Case of his Death or Removal, the next Civil Servant in Degree of Council below the said *Jefas Du Pré* do succeed in the said Presidency and Government, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Power, Privileges, and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Charles Bourcbier*, until our further Pleasure be known therein; and we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former Commission or Commissions,

Commissions, given and granted by us, whereby any other Person or Persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other Persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council at *Fort Saint George* aforesaid. In Witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the Twelfth Day of *January*, in the Eighth Year of the Reign of His Most Excellent Majesty *George* the Third, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-eight.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Fort Saint George*, dated the 12th of *January* 1768.

By the Ship *Queen* we transmit you a Commission, under the Seal of the Company, appointing the President and Governor, and the rest of the Council, for the Presidency of *Fort Saint George*, in the Order and in the Manner before described and directed; and you will receive an attested Copy thereof by the Ship *Dutton*.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*. To all to whom these Presents shall come, send greeting. Know ye, That the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Jofias Du Pré*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Jofias Du Pré*, upon and from the last Day of *January* which shall be in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy, to be President and Governor of, and for, all our Affairs on the Coasts of *Choromandel* and *Orissa*, and of the *Chingee* and *Moratta* Countries; and also to be our Commander in Chief of our *Fort Saint George* and Town of *Madraspatnam*, and all the Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Forts, Factories, and Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Forts, Towns, and Places; and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the Time being: And to the End that he the said *Jofias Du Pré* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said Company; we do, by these Presents, constitute and ordain *Warren Hastings*, Esquire, to be Second of our Council of *Fort Saint George*, next after our said President *Jofias Du Pré*, Mr. *John Call* to be Third of our said Council, Mr. *Alexander Wynch* to be Fourth, Mr. *John Andrews* to be Fifth, Mr. *Samuel Ardley* to be Sixth, Mr. *John Smith* to be Seventh, Mr. *John Lewin Smith* to be Eighth, Mr. *George Stratton* to be Ninth, Mr. *George Dawson* to be Tenth, Mr. *James Bourcier* to be Eleventh, Mr. *Henry Brooke* to be Twelfth, Mr. *Richard Brickenden* to be Thirteenth, Mr. *John Whitehill* to be Fourteenth, Mr. *George Dolben* to be Fifteenth, and Mr. *George Mackay* to be Sixteenth, and last, of our said Council of *Fort Saint George*, and not at any Time to rise to an higher Rank therein, for governing and managing all the said Company's Affairs

upon the Coasts of *Choromandel* and *Orissa*, and the *Chingee* and *Moratta* Countries, and governing the said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, within any of the said Territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor *Jofias Du Pré*, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam*, and elsewhere, within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council, in their several and respective Places where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as he the said *Jofias Du Pré*, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being: And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Saint George* and City of *Madraspatnam*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Jofias Du Pré*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And so far as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the Death or Removal of the said *Jofias Du Pré*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof; we do therefore by these Presents ordain and appoint, that in such Case the said *Warren Hastings* shall immediately be and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Fort Saint George* aforesaid; and in case of his Death or Removal, the next Civil Servant in Degree of Council below the said *Warren Hastings* do succeed in the said Presidency and Government, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Power, Privileges, and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Jofias Du Pré*, until our further Pleasure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former Commission or Commissions, given and granted by us, whereby any other Person or Persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other Persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council at *Fort Saint George* aforesaid. In Witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the Seventeenth Day of *March*, in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty *George* the Third, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-nine.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the said United Company.

*P. Mibell*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Fort Saint George*, dated the 17th *March* 1769.

Mr. *Bourcier* being directed to resign the Government on the 31st *January* 1770, and *Jofias Du Pré*, Esquire, being appointed, by the 16th Paragraph of our Letter of the 12th *January* 1768, to succeed as President and Governor of *Fort Saint George*, he is on the said 31st Day of *January* 1768 to take upon himself the

the Administration thereof accordingly; and we expect, from his Zeal and Abilities in the Discharge of the Duties of that important Station, he will merit this Signal Mark of our Favour.

And we further order and direct, that our Council at Fort Saint George do consist of the following Gentlemen, viz.

*Jofias Du Pré*, Esquire, President and Governor.  
*Mr. Warren Hastings*—To be Second in Council, and succeed to the Government, in Case of a Vacancy by the Decease or otherwise of *Mr. Du Pré*.

Mr. John Call,	Third.
Mr. Alexander Wynch,	Fourth.
Mr. John Andrews,	Fifth.
Mr. Samuel Arley,	Sixth.
Mr. John Smith,	Seventh.
Mr. John Levin Smith,	Eighth.
Mr. George Stratton,	Ninth.
Mr. George Dawson,	Tenth.
Mr. James Bourcier,	Eleventh.
Mr. Henry Brooke,	Twelfth.
Mr. Richard Brickenden,	Thirteenth.
Mr. John Whitehill,	Fourteenth.
Mr. George Dolben,	Fifteenth.
Mr. George Mackay,	Sixteenth, and last of Council; and at no Time to rise to an higher Rank therein than last.

And we inclose a Commission accordingly, under the Company's Seal, in the Packet, by the Ship *Duke of Grafton*, and an attested Copy thereof will be forwarded in the *Duke of Kingston*.

To the honourable *Charles Bourcier*, Esquire, President and Governor of Fort Saint George, *Jofias Du Pré*, Esquire, *Warren Hastings*, Esquire, Brigadier General *Joseph Smith*, and *Alexander Wynch*, Esquire.

1. The Tenor of our Letters to the separate Department, since the Negotiations were commenced with *Nizam Ally* for the *Circars*, will explain to you the Sense we have entertained of the Deviations that have been made from our former, more contracted, but, as we trust, more permanent, System, of confining our Influence and Possessions within the Boundaries of the *Carnatic*; it is to retreat back within those Limits, and for other Purposes, which we shall hereafter express, that we hereby appoint you a Select Committee, and entrust to your Discretion and Abilities, the Conduct of our political Affairs.

2. The Preservation of our present Influence in the *Bengal Provinces*, is the great Object of our Attention; all political Connections in the rest of *India*, are only important, as they may affect us there.

3. Every Accession of Influence, or Possession elsewhere, which, by dividing our Troops, may prevent the Exertion of our whole Force, in case we should be attacked in that Quarter, is hazarding a Substante for a Shadow; and on this Principle we shall never think *Bengal* secure while there is an *English* Soldier in the *Mysore* Country. We esteem your Coast only as a Barrier to our *Bengal* Possessions; and the Depression of the *French* Power in the *Carnatic*, and their Exclusion from the *Circars*, are the Two Objects to which all your Politics should tend.

4. Judge then our Anxiety at seeing a System adopted so repugnant to our Views, as that of supporting *Mahomed Ally* in the *Mysore* Country. We repeat, we shall not think ourselves secure while we have a Soldier or *Sepoy* in that Country, nor till we see it given to some Power who may perceive it as a Barrier against the *Morattas*, and who may be an useful Ally, should we

ever have Occasion to call in the Assistance of a Country Power: These are our Views; but not being able to form even a probable Conjecture of what may happen from the Time of your last Advices to the Time that this shall reach your Hands, it is impossible for us to say, how our Views are to be accomplished; we trust entirely to your Judgment, so to conduct these delicate Affairs, as shall the least expose us to the Imputation of violated Faith.

5. Were *Mahomed Ally* only to be managed, the Conduct of the *Rajah* of *Tanjore* leaves an Opening to satisfy him at his Expence, in the Manner we shall point out in the subsequent Part of this Letter; but you may possibly find yourselves embarrassed with various Engagements entered into with the *Morattas*, or with the dispossessed Princes of those Countries which have been conquered by *Hyder Ally*, or with any other Country Powers, with whom the Task may be more difficult, and for which we can give no positive Directions.—Whenever the great Purpose of retiring again within the Boundaries of the *Carnatic* (having first secured a proper Barrier) is obtained, the Defence thereof, and the Reduction of the vast Forces now kept up by the Company and the Nabob, must be strictly attended to; but first it will be necessary to explain ourselves with respect to the *Rajah* of *Tanjore*.

6. We have expressed our Sense of the *Rajah* of *Tanjore's* Conduct in our Letter to the separate Department, but have reserved our Intentions with respect to that *Rajah*, to be executed by you.

7. It appears most unreasonable to us, that the *Rajah* of *Tanjore* should hold Possession of the most fruitful Part of the Country, which can alone supply our Armies with Substante, and not contribute to the Defence of the *Carnatic*.—We observe the Nabob makes very earnest Representations to you on this Subject, in his Letter, entered in the Book of Country Correspondence, wherein he takes Notice that the *Zemindars* of the *Carnatic* have been supported, and their Countries preserved to them, by the Operations of our Forces employed in his Cause, and that nothing was more notorious than that Three former Princes of the *Carnatic* had received from the *Tanjore* *Rajah* 70, 80, may even 100 Lacks of Rupees at a Time; that to the preceding *Nizam* he had paid a Contribution of 50 Lacks, and the present, if he had met with Success against our Army, would not have been content with less than a Crore of Rupees from this *Rajah*: How just does it then appear, that he should be made to bear some Part of the Expence of those Measures, to which he owes his Security, and the Peace of his Country.—We therefore enjoin you to give the Nabob such Support in his Pretensions on the *Rajah* of *Tanjore*, as may be effectual; and if the *Rajah* refuses to contribute a just Proportion to the Expence of the War, you are then to pursue such Measures as the Nabob may think consistent with the Justice and Dignity of his Government.

8. Whatever Sums may in Consequence of the above Orders be obtained from the *Rajah* of *Tanjore*, we expect shall be applied to the Discharge of the Nabob's Debt to the Company; and if more than sufficient for that Purpose, to the Discharge of his Debt to Individuals.

9. In our Letter to the separate Department, under this Date, we have testified our great Surprise at the Reports that are circulated by the Amount of the Nabob's Debt to Individuals, being more than 20 Lacks of Pagodas, and that the Governor and Council act as Trustees for the Recovery of the same, and as such are in Possession of the Collection of the Revenues of great Part of the *Carnatic*.

10. Ignorant as we are of the Rise of this Debt, and the Truth of these Reports, we cannot but be suspicious that the Interest of the Company is much wronged thereby.

11. We are alarmed left this Debt to Individuals should have been the real Motive for the Aggrandisement of *Mahomed Ally*, and that we are plunged into a War, to put him in Possession of the *Myfore* Revenues, for the Discharge of the Debt.—Nor are we without Apprehensions that the Revenues collected by the Nabob in the *Carnatic*, and the new Conquests, may be applied to the Discharge of this Debt, instead of being applied to the Support of the War.

12. If the Report of the Trust vested in the Governor and Council is true, we cannot consider it in any other Light than a total Inversion of the Nature of our Service.—It is avowing private Interest diametrically opposite to the Company's, and in a Case where they must continually come in Competition.—Charged on our Part with the Recovery of a Debt due from the Nabob, for supporting him in a War during almost Twenty Years, how can our Servants, consistent with their Duty and Fidelity, neglect the Discharge of so great a public Trust, or suffer any Interest of their own to come in Competition with it; or how can they dare to employ the Forces, Influence, and Authority, of the Company, in collecting the Revenues of the Nabob, mortgaged to themselves?—The Honour and Dignity of the Company is so materially affected by those Proceedings, that we expect you to impress our Servants with the due Sense of the Distinction, which arises between private and public Interest, so diametrically opposite in this Instance; and how incompatible their Conduct is with the Character of faithful Servants to the Company; and therefore the First Step you are to take is to demand from them a Renunciation of all the Power and Authority given them by the Nabob, for the Collection of any Part of his Revenues, for his Debts to Individuals; for we cannot suffer the Idea of such a Right to be entertained, either by the Nabob, or by our Servants, in Exclusion of ourselves.

13. Having done this, you are then to demand from the Nabob, an Account of all his Debts to the Servants of the Company or Inhabitants, arising under our Protection.—You are to examine them separately, and see that they are charged with no higher Interest than after the Rate of 10 per Cent. from the Day of the Receipt of our Orders on that Subject, under Date of the 17th May 1766, Par. 33.

14. Having adjusted these Accounts, you are to let the Nabob know, his first Obligation is to discharge his Debt due to the Company: You are therefore to offer him your Assistance; and if necessary, even insist in the strongest Manner on his entering into the Detail of his Revenues, and to point out to you what further Resources he has for the Discharge of his Debts, and to make the Liquidation thereof a Matter of public Discussion between you and him, and give the Sanction of the Company's Authority to the Measures to be taken for the Discharge of his Debt to Individuals, without which he can never be a useful Ally.

15. You are to be very minute in representing to us whatever can give any Light into the Rise and Progress of this unconformable Debt, and the Measures you adopt for procuring the Discharge of it.

16. We have expressed our Sentiments in our Letter to the separate Department on the great and almost unnecessary Force kept up by the Nabob, but we rely on you for pursuing the proper Measures to enforce the Reduction of them to a Number more suitable to the State of the Nabob's Finances: When we permitted an Increase of the *Sepey* Establishment in 1765, it was with a View to reduce the Numbers of his undisciplined Rabble; instead of which they have been encreasing to a Degree, as would almost induce us to think he meant in future to rely on them for the Defence of the *Carnatic* the Folly of this must be strongly represented to him, and you must inculcate to him, that he cannot strengthen himself by any Mode so effectual as the Re-establishing his Finances. Remind him of the long War

we have sustained in the Defence of the *Carnatic*; that the Time may come when such another Effort may be required against the same powerful Enemy; that he is always to bear this in his Mind as a possible Event, and be preparing against it; and that no Preparation will be so effectual as a full Treasury; and still that is accomplished, he must confine all his Ambition to the putting the *Carnatic* into a proper State of Defence, by keeping up the Fortifications, and having his Magazines well stored.

17. Our Letter to the separate Department by this Conveyance will sufficiently explain to you our Sentiments with respect to the Mode adopted of late Years, for contracting for Supplies to the Army; and you are therefore hereby most positively ordered to examine and correct all Abuses that may appear to you to have been committed in this Respect, and revert to our former Orders on this Subject.

18. There is nothing which affects the Welfare of the Company more than an impartial Administration of Justice towards their Servants; and we find ourselves extremely perplexed with Opinion to form on the Censures passed by the Governor and Council against Messrs. *Dowsett* and *Cuning*, on Account of the Doubts that arise from the Character of *Jettage*, the principal Evidence, and the Contradictions in the several Evidences, but more especially from that given in upon Oath by *Candapab* relative to Mr. *Dowsett*, subsequent to the Decision of the Governor and Council on the Cases of Messrs. *Dowsett* and *Cuning*, and which Evidence of *Candapab* will very materially affect that given against them.—This has induced us to suspend our Judgment; and we refer it to your Decision, and recommend it to you, to go attentively through the former Trial, to consider the Weight due to the Evidence given by *Candapab*, and any new Lights that may since be received if *Narsoo* is found; and should they be found guilty of the Charge laid against them, our Order is, that they be dismissed our Service, and sent Home by the first Conveyance; and on the other Hand, should you deem them worthy of being restored, we empower you so to do, and to let their Salary and Allowances from the Company be continued to them from the Time they were withheld.—However, whether they are restored, or not, you are to see that the several Sums are refunded, which the Company have been defrauded of, by the carrying on of the Works at *Cuddalore* during the Time that Messrs. *Dowsett* and *Cuning* were Paymasters there.—And if in the Course of your investigating these Affairs, it may appear to you that any of the Natives have been guilty of fraudulent Practices, you are to withdraw our Protection from those who are so unworthy of it, and banish them from our Bounds.

London,  
the 17th March 1769.

Charles Chambers, Ja. Cockburn, J <sup>r</sup> Woodhouse, Ben. Booth, J. Creswicke, Peter Du Cane, Junior, William Snell, John Harrison, Luke Swafston, Rob. Jones,	We are Your loving Friends, H <sup>o</sup> Crabb Bealton, G. Colebrooke, J. Purling, Fra <sup>s</sup> Pica, H. H. Cruttenden, W <sup>m</sup> Jones, Daniel Wier, Edw <sup>d</sup> Wobler, J. Hurdock, J. Pardee.
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The United Company of Merchants of England, trading  
to the *East Indies*,  
To all to whom their Presents shall come,  
send Greeting.

Know ye, That we the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Roger Drake*, Junior, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained,  
3 C and

and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Roger Drake*, to be President and Governor, of and for all the said Company's Affairs in the Bay of Bengal, and other the Places and Provinces thereunto belonging in the *East Indies*; and also to be our Governor and Commander in Chief of our *Fort William*, in the Bay of Bengal, and all the Towns and Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Ports, Factories, and Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Ports, Towns, and Places, and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being: And, to the End the said *Roger Drake* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said United Company, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain *William Watts*, Esquire, to be Second of our Council of *Fort William*, next after our said President *Roger Drake*, Major *James Kilpatrick* to be and continue Third of our said Council, and not to rise to a superior Rank therein, Mr. *Charles Manningham* to be Fourth, Mr. *Richard Becher* to be Fifth, Mr. *Paul Richard Parkes* to be Sixth, Mr. *William Frankland* to be Seventh, Mr. *Matthew Collet* to be Eighth, Mr. *John Zephaniah Holwell* to be Ninth, Mr. *William Mackett* to be Tenth, Mr. *Edward Eyre* to be Eleventh, and Mr. *Nicholas Clerembaul* to be Twelfth, and last, of our said Council of *Fort William*, for governing and managing all the said Company's Affairs in *Bengal*, and the Places and Provinces thereunto belonging as aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, *Roger Drake*, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort William*, and all the Towns and Territories thereunto belonging, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and Governor, and his Council, in their several and respective Places where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as the said *Roger Drake*, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being: And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of the said *Fort William*, and all the Towns and Territories thereunto belonging, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto him the said *Roger Drake*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly.—And forasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in Case of the Death or Removal of the said *Roger Drake*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof; we do therefore, by these Presents, ordain and appoint, that in such Case the said *William Watts*, Esquire, shall immediately be and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Fort William* aforesaid; and in Case of his Death or Removal, the next

in Degree of Council below the said Major *James Kilpatrick* shall succeed in the said Presidency and Government, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Powers, Privileges, and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Roger Drake*, until our further Pleasure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former Commission and Commissions, given and granted by us, whereby any other Person or Persons was and were constituted and ordained President and Governor, and any other Persons therein named were constituted and ordained to be of the Council at *Fort William* aforesaid. In Witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the Eleventh Day of February, in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of his Most excellent Majesty *George the Second*, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and to forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Fifty-six.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated the 11th February 1756.

You will receive by the Ship *Chesterfield*, a Commission under the Seal of the Company, whereby the undernamed Persons are constituted and appointed to preside over and manage all the Company's Affairs at *Fort William* in *Bengal*, and all the several Dependencies thereunto belonging; viz.

*Roger Drake*, Esquire, President and Governor.

*William Watts*, Esquire, Second of Council, and to succeed, as President and Governor, in Case of the Death or Removal of Mr. *Drake*.

*James Kilpatrick*, Esquire, as Major and Third of Council, and to remain so without rising to a superior Rank therein.

Mr. <i>Charles Manningham</i> ,	Fourth in Council,
Mr. <i>Richard Becher</i> ,	Fifth.
Mr. <i>Paul Richard Parkes</i> ,	Sixth.
Mr. <i>William Frankland</i> ,	Seventh.
Mr. <i>Matthew Collet</i> ,	Eighth.
Mr. <i>John Zephaniah Holwell</i> ,	Ninth.
Mr. <i>William Mackett</i> ,	Tenth.
Mr. <i>Edward Eyre</i> ,	Eleventh.
Mr. <i>Nicholas Clerembaul</i> ,	Twelfth.

Memorandum: The rest of the Commissions and Instructions, relating to the Presidency of *Fort William*, will appear by the following Letters, which are entered in the Books of Letters to that Presidency, now before the Committee.

General Letter 3d August 1757—Par<sup>a</sup> 5 and 7.

11th Novem.	—	4b.
8th March 1768	—	4. and 6.
23d Dec <sup>r</sup>	—	1.
11th April	—	1.
13th March 1761	—	65.
9th Feb. 1764	—	
9th May	—	28.
1st June	—	19. 67. 68. 69.
17th May 1766	—	40.
12th Janry 1768	—	7. 9. 10.
15th Septem. 1769	—	3.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*, To all to whom these Presents shall come,



come, fend Greeting. Know ye, That we, the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Charles Crommelin*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Charles Crommelin*, Esquire, upon and from the last Day of *February*, which shall be in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty, to be President of and for all our Affairs at *Bombay*, and in *Surat*, *Cambay*, and *Persia*, and at *Tellicherry*, *Anjengo*, and all our Settlements on the *Malabar* Coast, and elsewhere in the *East Indies*, under the Direction of the late President and Council; and also to be our Commander in Chief and Governor of our Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and of the several Forts thereon, and of our Forts of *Tellicherry* and *Anjengo*, and of all and singular other the Forts, Territories, and Jurisdictions belonging thereunto, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company in the said Forts, Towns, and Places, or sent from thence by Land or Sea, and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being: And, to the End the said *Charles Crommelin* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of the said Company, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain *Mr. George Scott*, to be Second of our Council of *Bombay*, next after our said President *Charles Crommelin*, *Mr. Thomas Byfield*, Third; *Mr. Thomas Hodges*, Fourth; *Mr. Alexander Douglas*, Fifth; *Mr. Brabazon Ellis*, Sixth; *Mr. William Hornby*, Seventh; *Mr. William Andrew Price*, Eighth; *Mr. John Spencer*, Ninth; Captain *Samuel Hough*, Tenth; *Mr. Thomas Whitebill*, Eleventh; and *Mr. Charles Waters*, Twelfth, and last, of our said Council of *Bombay*, for governing and managing of all the said Company's Affairs at *Bombay* and other the Places aforesaid, and governing the said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, within any the Territories aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President *Charles Crommelin*, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them, whereof our said President to be always One (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and elsewhere within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and his Council in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as they the said *Charles Crommelin*, our President, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being:—And we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said Island and Castle of *Bombay*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Charles Crommelin*, our President and Governor,

and his Council, accordingly: And so much as it is altogether necessary, that, in case of the Death or Removal of the said *Charles Crommelin*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof, we do therefore, by these Presents, ordain and appoint, that in such Case the said *Mr. Thomas Hodges* shall immediately be and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Bombay* aforesaid, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Powers and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Charles Crommelin*, until our, or the Court of Directors for the Time being, as aforesaid, their further Pleasure be known therein. In Witness whereof we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, this Twenty-fifth Day of *April*, in the Thirty-second Year of the Reign of his most Excellent Majesty *George the Second*, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and Fifty-nine.

L. S.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the General Letter to *Bombay*, dated the  
25th *April* 1759.

We shall now proceed to regulate and fix your Establishment: We accordingly direct and appoint *Charles Crommelin*, Esquire, to be President and Governor of our Island of *Bombay*, and that he take the Chair on the last Day of *February* 1760, or sooner if Governor *Bourcbier* shall chuse to resign; and in case of the Death or Absence of *Mr. Crommelin*, we appoint *Thomas Hodges*, Esquire, to be Governor of *Bombay*; and on the Death or Absence of *Mr. Hodges*, it is our Pleasure, that those of Council next below *Mr. Hodges* succeed to the Government in Turn, as we shall rank them; all those in Council standing above *Mr. Hodges* are barred from the Succession: And we do hereby appoint the following Persons to be our Governor and Council for the Management of our Affairs under your Presidency.

<i>Charles Crommelin</i> , Esquire, President and Governor,	to take the Chair on the last Day of <i>February</i> 1760, or sooner if <i>Mr. Bourcbier</i> should resign.
<i>George Scott</i> ,	Second of Council; to rise no higher.
<i>Thomas Byfield</i> ,	Third.
<i>Thomas Hodges</i> ,	Fourth; to succeed as President and Governor, in case of the Death or Absence of <i>Mr. Crommelin</i> .
<i>Alexander Douglas</i> ,	Fifth.
<i>Brabazon Ellis</i> ,	Sixth.
<i>William Hornby</i> ,	Seventh.
<i>William Andrew Price</i> ,	Eighth.
<i>John Spencer</i> ,	Ninth.
<i>Samuel Hough</i> ,	Tenth.
<i>Thomas Whitebill</i> ,	Eleventh.
<i>Charles Waters</i> ,	Twelfth.

A Commission, agreeable to this Appointment, is sent in the Packet, by the Ship *Harcein*.

The United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*,  
To all to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting.

Know ye, That we the said United Company, reposing especial

especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *John Spencer*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *John Spencer*, Esquire, upon and from the last Day of *January*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty seven, to be President of and for all our Affairs at *Bombay* and in *Surat*, *Cambay*, and *Perfia*, and at *Tellicberry*, *Anjengo*, and all our Settlements on the *Mallabar Coast*, and elsewhere, in the *East Indies*, now under the Direction of *Charles Crommelin*, Esquire, President, and the Council, of *Bombay* aforesaid; and also to be our Commander in Chief, and Governor of our Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and of the several Forts thereon, and our Forts of *Tellicberry* and *Anjengo*, and of all and singular other the Forts, Territories, and Jurisdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the said United Company, in the said Forts, Towns, and Places, or sent from thence by Land or Sea, and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, and to continue in the said Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the Time being: And, to the End the said *John Spencer* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of the said Company, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain *Mr. Thomas Byfield* to be Second of our Council of *Bombay*, next after our said President *John Spencer*; *Mr. Thomas Hodges*, Third; *Mr. William Hornby*, Fourth; *Mr. William Andrew Price*, Fifth; *Mr. Thomas Whitehill*, Sixth; *Mr. Charles Waters*, Seventh; *Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench*, Eighth; *Mr. Samuel Court*, Ninth; *Mr. Daniel Draper*, Tenth; *Mr. James Ryley*, Eleventh; *Mr. Henry Moore*, Twelfth; and *Mr. Rawson Hart Boddam*, Thirteenth, and last, of our said Council of *Bombay*, for governing and managing of all the said Company's Affairs at *Bombay*, and other the Places aforesaid, and governing the said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, within any of the Territories aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President, *John Spencer*, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them, whereof our said President to be always One (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, or elsewhere, or within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths, as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and his Council in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as they the said *John Spencer*, President, and Council aforesaid, shall, from Time to Time, receive, under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being; and we the said United Company do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said Island and Castle of *Bombay*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *John Spencer*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And so much as it is altogether necessary, that in case of the

Death or Removal of the said *John Spencer*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof, we do therefore by these Presents ordain and appoint, that in such Case the said *Mr. Thomas Hodges* shall immediately be and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Bombay*, and its Dependencies aforesaid, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Powers and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *John Spencer*, until our or the Court of Directors for the Time being as aforesaid, their further Pleasure be known therein. In Witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, this Twelfth Day of *March*, in the Sixth Year of the Reign of his most Excellent Majesty *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the General Letter to *Bombay*, dated the  
12th *March* 1766.

Having ordered and directed *Mr. Crommelin* to resign the Government on the 31st Day of *January* 1767, and *Mr. John Spencer* being appointed by our Letters of the 1st *June* 1764, and the 22d *March* 1765, to succeed thereto; he is accordingly, on the said 31st Day of *January* 1767, to take Charge of the Government as President and Governor of *Bombay*; and we hope he will, by his Fidelity, Diligence, strict Observance of our Orders, and constant Application in the said Station, render himself worthy of this signal Mark of our Favour.

And we do hereby order and direct, that our Council at *Bombay* do consist of the following Persons; viz.

<i>John Spencer</i> , Esquire,	President and Governor.
<i>Mr. Thomas Byfield</i> ,	Second.
<i>Mr. Thomas Hodges</i> ,	Third.
<i>Mr. William Hornby</i> ,	Fourth.
<i>Mr. William Andrew Price</i> ,	Fifth.
<i>Mr. Thomas Whitehill</i> ,	Sixth.
<i>Mr. Charles Waters</i> ,	Seventh.
<i>Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench</i> ,	Eighth.
<i>Mr. Samuel Court</i> ,	Ninth.
<i>Mr. Daniel Draper</i> ,	Tenth.
<i>Mr. James Ryley</i> ,	Eleventh.
<i>Mr. Henry Moore</i> ,	Twelfth.
<i>Mr. Rawson Hart Boddam</i> ,	Thirteenth.

We accordingly send, by the Ship *Nottingham*, a Commission under the Company's Seal, confirming the said Appointment.

The United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading  
to the *East Indies*,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, send  
Greeting.

Know ye, That we the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Thomas Hodges*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Thomas Hodges* to be President of and for all our Affairs at *Bombay*, and in *Surat*, *Cambay*, and *Perfia*, and at *Tellicberry*, *Anjengo*, and all our Settlements on the *Mallabar Coast*, and elsewhere, in the *East Indies*, under the Direction of the late President and Council; and also to be our Commander in Chief, and Governor of our Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and of the several Forts thereon, and of our Forts of *Tellicberry* and *Anjengo*.

*jengo*, and of all and singular other the Forts, Territories, and Jurisdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Forts, Towns, and Places, or sent from thence by Land or Sea, and to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities thereunto appertaining, by Order and Direction of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being; and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the Time being: And, to the End the said *Thomas Hodges* may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of the said Company, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain Mr. *William Hornby* to be Second of our Council of *Bombay*, next after our said President *Thomas Hodges*, Mr. *William Andrew Price* to be Third, Mr. *Thomas Whitehill* to be Fourth, Mr. *Peter Elwin Wrench* to be Fifth, Mr. *Samuel Court* to be Sixth, Mr. *Daniel Draper* to be Seventh, Mr. *James Ryley* to be Eighth, Mr. *Henry Moore* to be Ninth, Mr. *Rawson Hart Boddam* to be Tenth, Mr. *Benjamin Jervis*, to be Eleventh, Mr. *Thomas Maffyn* to be Twelfth, and Mr. *Nathaniel Stackhouse* to be Thirteenth, and last, of our said Council of *Bombay*, for governing and managing of all the said Company's Affairs at *Bombay*, and other the Places aforesaid, and governing the said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, within any the Territories and Places aforesaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President, *Thomas Hodges*, Esquire, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them, whereof our said President to be always One (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors, and Servants, under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said Castle and Island of *Bombay*, and elsewhere within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as the said President and his Council, in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Instructions and Directions as they the said *Thomas Hodges*, our President and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive, under the Hands of Thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the Time being. And we the said United Company do hereby order and require, all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said Island and Castle of *Bombay*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Thomas Hodges*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly. And so farasmuch as it is altogether necessary, that in Case of the Death or Removal of the said *Thomas Hodges*, our Presidency should be provided for the Defence and Government thereof; we do therefore, by these Presents, ordain and appoint, that in such Case, the said *William Hornby* shall immediately be, and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Bombay* aforesaid, in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Powers, Privileges, and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Thomas Hodges*, until our, or the Court of Directors for the Time being as aforesaid, their further Pleasure be known therein. In Witness whereof, we

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the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, the Eighteenth Day of *March*, in the Eighth Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-eight.

(L. S.)

By Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company  
*P. Mitchell*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Bombay*, dated 18th *March* 1768.

*Thomas Hodges*, Esquire, having succeeded to the Chair at your Presidency, agreeable to our Orders of the 17th *May* 1766, you will receive by the Ship *Royal Captain*, now under Dispatch for *Bombay*, a Commission under the Company's Seal, constituting him President and Governor, and the following Persons of Council, for managing our Affairs at *Bombay*; viz.

<i>Thomas Hodges</i> , Esquire,	President and Governor.
Mr. <i>William Hornby</i> ,	Second.
Mr. <i>William Andrew Price</i> ,	Third.
Mr. <i>Thomas Whitehill</i> ,	Fourth.
Mr. <i>Peter Elwin Wrench</i> ,	Fifth.
Mr. <i>Samuel Court</i> ,	Sixth.
Mr. <i>Daniel Draper</i> ,	Seventh.
Mr. <i>James Ryley</i> ,	Eighth.
Mr. <i>Henry Moore</i> ,	Ninth.
Mr. <i>Rawson Hart Boddam</i> ,	Tenth.
Mr. <i>Benjamin Jervis</i> ,	Eleventh.
Mr. <i>Thomas Maffyn</i> ,	Twelfth.
Mr. <i>Nathaniel Stackhouse</i> ,	Thirteenth.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting.

Know ye, That the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Roger Carter*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Roger Carter* to be President and Governor of and for all our Affairs on the Island of *Sumatra*, in the East Indies, and also to be our Commander in Chief of our Fort *Marlborough*, at *Bencoolen*, on the said Island, and all the Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Towns, Forts, Factories, and Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter shall or may, become subordinate thereto or dependant thereon, or shall or may be acquired, and annexed to the said Presidency, although not situate on the said Island of *Sumatra*, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Forts, Towns, Places, and Acquisitions; giving and hereby granting to the said *Roger Carter*, full Power and Authority to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities appertaining to the said Offices or Places of President and Governor, and Commander in Chief as aforesaid, in as full and ample Manner, and with the like Powers and Authorities, as all or any of our Presidents and Governors, and Commanders in Chief of any other of our Forts, Factories, Places, and Settlements, in the East Indies aforesaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to such Orders and Directions as have been, from Time to Time, established by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the Government and Conduct of their Affairs on the said Island of *Sumatra*, or as he the said *Roger Carter* shall now, or at

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any.

any Time hereafter receive, under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the Exercise of the same, during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being. And, to the End the said *Roger Carter*, Esquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said Company, as our said President and Governor as aforesaid, we do by these Presents constitute and ordain *Richard Wyatt*, Esquire, to be Second of our Council at *Fort Marlborough* aforesaid, next after our said President *Roger Carter*, *Mr. Joseph Darvall* to be Third, *Mr. William Norris* to be Fourth, *Mr. Richard Preston* to be Fifth, *Mr. Robert Hay* to be Sixth, *Mr. Alexander Hall* to be Seventh, *Mr. Henry Idell* to be Eighth, and *Mr. Christopher Watfon* to be Ninth, and last, of our said Council at *Fort Marlborough*, for managing and governing all the said Company's Affairs upon the said Island of *Sumatra*, the said *Fort Marlborough* and Town of *Bencoolen*, and all other our Ports, Factories, and Settlements, on the Island aforesaid, and which now are, or shall or may hereafter become, dependant thereon and subordinate thereto, although not situated on the said Island. And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, *Roger Carter*, and to our Council aforesaid, or the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants, under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Marlborough* and Town of *Bencoolen*, and elsewhere within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths, as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as any of the said United Company's Presidents and Governors, and their Councils, in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Orders and Instructions as lie, the said *Roger Carter*, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive, under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being; and we, the said United Company, do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers, and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Marlborough* and Town of *Bencoolen*, or any other our Ports, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Roger Carter*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly. In Witness whereof, the said United Company have caused their Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, this Fourth Day of *February*, in the first Year of the Reign of His most excellent Majesty *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-one.

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Fort Marlborough*, dated 4 February 1761.

91. As *Fort Marlborough* is now become an independent Settlement, our Affairs are to be conducted

by a Governor, or President and Council, in the same Manner, and with the like Powers and Authorities, as our other Presidencies. We have accordingly constituted and appointed the following named Gentlemen to be our said Governor, or President, and Council, and herewith you will receive a Commission, under the Company's Seal, for the said Purpose; viz.

<i>Roger Carter</i> to be	Governor and President.
<i>Mr. Richard Wyatt</i> ,	Second in Council.
<i>Mr. Joseph Darvall</i> ,	Third.
<i>Mr. William Norris</i> ,	Fourth.
<i>Mr. Richard Preston</i> ,	Fifth.
<i>Mr. Robert Hay</i> ,	Sixth.
<i>Mr. Alexander Hall</i> ,	Seventh.
<i>Mr. Henry Idell</i> ,	Eighth.
<i>Mr. Christopher Watfon</i> ,	Ninth and last.

The United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting.

Know ye, That the said United Company, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Prudence, Justice, and Circumspection, of *Richard Wyatt*, Esquire, have made, constituted, and ordained, and by these Presents do make, constitute, and ordain, the said *Richard Wyatt* to be President and Governor of and for all our Affairs on the Island of *Sumatra* in the East Indies, and also to be our Commander in Chief of our *Fort Marlborough*, and *Bencoolen*, on the said Island, and all the Territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the Towns, Ports, Factories, and Settlements, Territories, Countries, and Jurisdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter shall or may become subordinate thereto, or dependant thereon, or shall or may be acquired and annexed to the said Presidency, although not situated on the said Island of *Sumatra*, and of all the Forces which now are, or hereafter may or shall be, employed for the Service of the said United Company, in the said Ports, Towns, Places, and Acquisitions, from and after the Day that *Roger Carter*, Esquire, now in Charge of our said Government and Presidency, is ordered and directed in the General Letter to the Presidency aforesaid, under the Hands of the major Part of the present Court of Directors of the said Company, bearing even Date with these Presents, to resign and yield up the said Government and Presidency as aforesaid to *Richard Wyatt*, Esquire; giving, and hereby granting, to the said *Richard Wyatt*, full Power and Authority to execute all and every the Powers and Authorities, appertaining to the said Offices or Places of President and Governor, and Commander in Chief, as aforesaid, in as full and ample Manner, and with the like Powers and Authorities, as all, or any of our Presidents and Governors, and Commanders in Chief of any other of our Ports, Factories, Places, and Settlements, in the East Indies aforesaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to such Orders and Directions, as have been, from Time to Time, established by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the Government and Conduct of their Affairs on the said Island of *Sumatra*; or as he, the said *Richard Wyatt*, shall now, or at any Time hereafter, receive under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of the Court of Directors of the said Company for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the Exercise of the same during our and their Pleasure, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under the Seal of the said United Company, or under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said Company, for the Time being: And, to the End the said *Richard Wyatt*, Esquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the Affairs of us the said Company, as our said President and Governor, as aforesaid, we do, by these Presents, constitute

and

and ordain *Joseph Darvall*, Esquire, to be Second of our Council at *Fort Marlborough* aforesaid, next to, and immediately after, our said President *Richard Wyatt*, *Mr. Robert Hay* to be Third, *Mr. George Scott* to be Fourth, *Mr. Robert Nairne* to be Fifth, *Mr. John Herbert* to be Sixth, *Mr. Hugh Steuart* to be Seventh, *Mr. John Guild* to be Eighth, and *Mr. Stokeham Danson* to be Ninth, and last, of our said Council at *Fort Marlborough*, for managing and governing all the said Company's Affairs upon the said Island of *Sumatra*, the said *Fort Marlborough*, and Town of *Bencoolen*, and all other our Forts, Factories, and Settlements, on the Island aforesaid; and which now are, or shall or may hereafter become dependant thereon, and subordinate thereto, although not situated on the said Island. And we do hereby give and grant unto our said President and Governor, *Richard Wyatt*, and to our Council aforesaid, or to the major Part of them (the whole Council being duly summoned) full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, to rule and govern all and every our Factors and Servants under the said Presidency, and all the Soldiers and Inhabitants of our said *Fort Marlborough*, and Town of *Bencoolen*, and elsewhere, within the Places aforesaid, to administer lawful Oaths as Occasion shall require; and to do and perform all such other Acts and Things, and to use and exercise all such other Powers and Authorities, as any of the said United Company's Presidents and Governors, and their Councils, in their several and respective Places, where the said United Company have, or shall have, Factors, or any Places of Trade, are authorized to do, according to such Orders and Instructions as he the said *Richard Wyatt*, our President and Governor, and Council aforesaid, shall from Time to Time receive under the Hands of Thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being. And we, the said United Company, do hereby order and require all our Factors, Servants, Officers and Soldiers, within the Limits of the said Presidency, and all the People and Inhabitants of our

said *Fort Marlborough*, and Town of *Bencoolen*, or any other our Forts, Places, or Colonies, within the said Presidency, to conform, submit, and yield due Obedience unto the said *Richard Wyatt*, our President and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And so far as much as it is altogether necessary, that in Case of the Death or Removal of the said *Richard Wyatt*, our Presidency should be provided for the better Defence and Government thereof, we do therefore by these Presents ordain and appoint, that in such Case, the said *Joseph Darvall*, Esquire, shall immediately be and succeed in the Place and Charge of President and Governor of *Fort Marlborough*, aforesaid; in as full and ample Manner, and with as large and ample Powers and Authorities, as are hereby granted unto the said *Richard Wyatt*, until our, or the Court of Directors for the Time being as aforesaid, their further Pleasure be known therein. In Witness whereof, we the said United Company have caused our Common Seal to be affixed to these Presents, this Fifteenth Day of January, in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His Most Excellent Majesty *George the Third*, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors  
of the said United Company.

*Robt James*, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Fort Marlborough*, dated the 15th January 1766.

Having made out a Commission under the Company's Seal, bearing Date the same Day with this Letter, confirming the Appointment of *Richard Wyatt*, Esquire, to be President and Governor, and the other Persons to be Councillors in the Order they are named; we send the same by the *Havannah*, and an attested Copy thereof by the *Hawke*.

## A P P E N D I X, N° 2.

List of Copies of the several Treaties and Grants from the Country Powers to the East India Company, respecting their Presidency at *Fort William* in Bengal, from the Year 1756 to 1766, both Years inclusive; which are in Possession of the House.

N° 1. TREATY executed by the Nabob *Serajab Dowla*, and Agreements of the President and Select Committee, and Colonel *Clive*, on the Part of the Company, in February 1757.

2. Perwannahs from Nabob *Serajab Dowla*, for erecting a Mint, and for the Currency of Buifness, and Copy of his Dultuck, dated in March 1757.

3. Treaty between Nabob *Jaffier Ally Khan* and the Company, in June 1757.

4. General Sunnud from the Nabob *Jaffier Ally Khan*, for Currency of the Company's Buifness, and relating to the Mint, dated 15th July 1757.

5. Perwannah from Nabob *Jaffier Ally Khan*, for Currency of Gold and Silver coined in the Company's Mint at *Calcutta*, dated the 28th of July 1757.

6. Perwannah from *Jaffier Ally Khan*, relating to the

Zemindarry of the Lands, South of *Calcutta*, granted to the Company by the Treaty with the said Nabob, dated in December 1757.

7. Perwannah from Nabob *Jaffier Ally Khan*, granting to the Company the sole Purchase of the Salt Petre produced in the Province of *Babar*, dated in March 1758.

8. Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindarry of the Lands granted to the Company by *Meer Jaffier Ally Khan*, dated in December 1758.

9. Sunnud from the Dewan of Bengal, granting the free Tenure of *Calcutta*, &c. to the Company, dated in December 1758.

10. Treaty between Nabob *Meer Mahomed Cossim Ally Khan*, and the Company, dated 27th September 1760.

11. Sunnuds from Nabob *Meer Mahomed Cossim Khan*, granting to the Company the Lands of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Uttamabad*, also the Chunar produced at *Silhet*; for Three Years, dated in October 1760.

12. Treaty between the Company and Nabob *Meer Jaffier Ally Khan*, and Articles demanded by the Nabob, and

and agreed to by the Governor and Council, dated 10th July 1763.

13. Nabob *Jaffer Ally Khan's* Note, for Payment of Five Lacks per Month, for Expenses of the Company's Troops, during the War with *Shujab ul Dowla*, dated 16th December 1764.

14. Proposals made by the King *Shah Aulum* to Major *Munro*, and Articles proposed by the Governor and Council to be executed by the King, also Firman from the King granting the *Gauzipoor* Country to the Company; the Letter dated the 20th of December 1764.

15. Treaty between the Company and Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla*, in February 1765.

16. General Firman, from the King *Shah Aulum*, granting to the Company the Dewanny of Bengal, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, dated 12th August 1765.

17. Firman from the King *Shah Aulum*, granting the Dewanny of Bengal to the Company, dated 12th August 1765.

18. Firman from the King *Shah Aulum*, granting the Dewanny of *Babar* to the Company, dated 12th August 1765.

19. Firman from the King *Shah Aulum*, granting the Dewanny of *Orissa* to the Company, dated 12 August 1765.

20. Firman from the King *Shah Aulum*, confirming to the Company the *Chukcles of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong*, and the 24 Purgannahs of *Calcutta*, &c. before ceded to them by the Nabobs *Jaffer Ally Khan* and *Casim Ally Khan*, dated 12 August 1765.

21. Treaty between Nabob *Shuja ul Dowla*, Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla* and the Company, dated 16th August 1765.

22. Agreement between the King *Shah Aulum* and the Company, relating to the Tribute to be paid to him from the Revenues of Bengal, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, dated 19th August 1765.

23. Agreement between the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla*, and the Company, relating to the Allowance to be paid him for the Support of the Nizamut.

Grants relating to Lord *Clive's* Munsub and Jaghire.

No 1. Sunnud from the King *Aulum Geer*, appointing Colonel *Clive* a Munsubdar, dated about December 1757.

2. Nabob *Meer Jaffer Ally Khan's* Perwannah for the Payment of Colonel *Clive's* Jaghire, dated in July 1757.

3. Sunnud from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla* for the Reversion in Perpetuity of Lord *Clive's* Jaghire to the Company, dated 23d June 1765.

4. Firman from the King *Shah Aulum*, confirming the Reversion in Perpetuity of Lord *Clive's* Jaghire to the Company.

The Royal Phirmaund granted by his Majesty *Fuzzukseer*, under his Seal, and the Vizier's *Siad Abidulla Cawn*.

To all Governors, Officers, Jaggeerdars, Phousdars, Chohedars, Chokeys, Horeveys, Jemidars, and all who bear Posts under the King at present, or shall hereafter, in the Subahs of Bengal, *Orissa*, *Hugly*, and elsewhere within their Limits, being in Hopes of the Royal Favour; Know, for in this joyful Time, when all is prosperous, and Victories daily happen, that Mr. *John Seriman* and *Caja Serband*, Gomastahs, for the honourable *Engl India* Company, have petitioned to my high Throne of Justice, that agreeable to *Shaw Jahans* (whom God has taken to himself, and given a Place in Heaven) *Nusban* and the former Sunnods, the *English* Company may carry on their Commerce, throughout the whole Country, exempt from Duties (except *Surat*) in Lieu of which, Three thousand Rupees is annually paid, a Pishcals into the Treasury at *Hugly*; therefore we are in Hopes, according to these former Sunnods, we shall be favoured and granted a Phurmaund.

I now direct and command, that whatever Goods, or other Things the Company's Gomastahs may (throughout my Dominions) either bring or carry away, by Land or by Water, have free Egrels and Regrels, exempt from any Duties; and in the same Manner they may buy or sell at their own Liberty; in which Consideration, the Three thousand Rupees is to be annually paid a Pishcals and no more; and further command, That, if in any Place, any of the Company's Goods should be stole, you are to make strict Search after them, that they be reitored, and the Thieves taken and brought to Justice, and at whatever Place the Company have where they buy and sell, in what is right, you are to assist them and not let them be abused; as also, from any Merchant, Weaver, or others, a just Balance is due, you are, agreeable to Justice, to see paid, so that no Injustice is done to any of the Company's Gomastahs, and on any Boat, either their own or hired, there is to be no Customs demanded on them.

And it is petitioned, That the Subahs petty Duans demand the Sight of the original Sunnod, as also One under the Nabob's Seal, and another under his Duan's Seal: The carrying the Original one Way where is troublesome; therefore, are in Hopes that a Copy under the Caze's Seal shall be regarded, and the Original one not insisted on, and likewise no Occasion to shew the Nabob's and Duan's at all: *Calcutta*, which is the Company's Factory, it is requested, That *Sota Leers* and *Govindapore*, (in the Country of *Amerabad*, in the Province of Bengal) which Places the Company formerly bought of *Jemmedar*, the Revenues 1,195.6 are annually paid, and furthermore Thirty-eight Towns, whose annual Revenues are 8,121.8 Rupees, which lie near *Calcutta*, we humbly beg you will grant us the Jemmedarry of, the above Rents shall be duly paid.

His Royal Pleasure, which is always Hand in Hand with Justice, commands, That a Copy of the original Sunnod, under the high Prefat *Dely's* Seal shall be regarded: The Towns bought formerly I acquiesce to the Thirty Towns, I give you the Jemmedarry of likewise, but you must buy them and satisfy the Owner, the Duan Suba will not impede you.

And it is petitioned, That ever since the Reign of *Aurangzebe* (whom God has placed in Heaven) our *Cherapatam* Rupees in all the Provinces pass for less than Value, notwithstanding the Silver is the same as the *Surat* Rupees, in which we are great Sufferers; therefore beg you will order, if the Silver be equal with the *Surat*, that they shall not pass for less than Value: And it is further petitioned, If any of the Company's Debtor or Gomastahs clope, that they be seized and return to the Chief, and that Phowdarry Customs and all others, which have been forbid, be not taken, as our Gomastah and Imahs are greatly distressed by them, they being demanded.

It is peremptorily commanded, That from this 5 Son for Year, if the *Cherapatam* Rupees be equal with the *Surat*, that they do not pass for less than Value; and if any Debtor or Gomastah clope, that they be taken and delivered to their Chief.

It is further petitioned, That the Company, having Factories in Bengal, *Orissa*, and willing to make some in other Places, are in Hopes, that in whatever other Places we think convenient, that Forty Begahs of Land will be granted for that Use; likewise, as sometimes our Ships, by Storms and hard Weather, are drove ashore and stranded, the Government in those Places by Force seize and plunder the Goods, and in other Places a Quarter is demanded; and further petition the Island of *Bombay*, a Company's Settlement, where the *Portuguez* Coin is current, if approved and an Order given, we will coin *Sicca* Rupees there as we do at *Cherapatam*.

It is commanded, As Land was before given to make Factories, that it shall be now given to make them in other Places; and as the *English* are People that have made

in the Dwelling in my Country, and trade in my Cities where I am; and have formerly received Sunnods to free them from all Duties and Customs; therefore you must, in Case of any of their Ships being cast away, or by Mistake go to your Port, protect them, and take Care of their Goods; and likewise that Sicca Rupees be coined at *Bombay*, and pass current as Siccas do.

Agreeable to all that I have ordered, commanded, and wrote in this Phurmaund, must be punctually complied with and not deviated from, nor demand a new Sunnod every Year, but regard this.

Dated the 27th of *Maburram*,  
5 Son of Year of his Reign.

Copies of Phirmauns, Husbulhookums, &c. 1717.

N<sup>o</sup> 1. Copy of a Husbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the conquered Empire; Know yee, that at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in several Ports the Company have Factories, where *English* Men reside, buying and selling, and there are some Places and Aungens likewise where *English* Men can't be sent; for which Reason they make Agreements, and send their Money by the Hands of the Merchants of this Country, to buy Goods for them: They hope that Orders may be given to the King's Mutfuddys (Officers) that whosoever so going and coming with the Duffick of the Chief of their Factory, be not hindered and molested. It is commanded, That a Lift be taken from under the Seal of the Chief of the Factory, and according to which, that you give Sunnods under your own Seal, for which Reason this Husbulhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, take a Lift from under the Seal of the Chief of their Factory; and according to which, give Sunnods under your own Seals. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 2. Copy of a Husbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the conquered Empire; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Bahar*, and *Oudeisa*, the Company have Factories, and that in other Provinces they may likewise have Liberty to settle other Factories; they hope, that in whatsoever Place they have a Mind to settle a Factory, they may have 40 Begas of Ground given them, for the same. It is ordered that they have according to Custom of their Factories in other Subahships; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which Reason this Husbulhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, let them in any Place settle new Factories according to the Custom of their other Factories. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

\* The Pole Star of the Empire.

N<sup>o</sup> 3. Copy of a Husbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all Ports and Provinces of the conquered Empire; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in any Port and Subahship, the Company's Gomastahs going backwards and forwards by Land and Water to buy and sell, if any thing should be stole, which God forbid, they hope for strict Orders to be given you, that you take Care that the Zemendars, &c. of the Place, where such Goods are stolen, do thoroughly assist in getting them again; and that the Goods be returned to the right Owner, and due Punishment be inflicted on the Robbers. It is accordingly commanded, for which Reason this Husbulhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, if in any Place, any Thing should be stolen, thoroughly assist in getting it again, and return it to the right Owners; and let due Punishment be inflicted on the Rogues. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 4. Copy of a Husbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, true to his Friends; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the conquered Empire; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the Rupees coined in *Madras* Mint receive some Discount before received into the King's Treasuries of all Subahships, although they are of the same Fineness and Goodness with *Surat*, whereby they are great Losers; they hope Orders may be given, in Case they are made the same as those at *Surat* and other Places, that there be no Discount on them, and that they be received current, as all other Siccas are. It is commanded, that from the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign, in Case they are made the same Fineness and Goodness with *Surat* Siccas, that there be no Discount on them; they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which Reason this Husbulhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, from the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign, in Case *Madras* Siccas are of the same Fineness and Goodness with *Surat* Siccas, receive them without any Discount. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 5. Copy of a Husbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, true to his Friends; as followeth:

To all Mutfuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the Empire; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through the Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in all Provinces, the Petty Duans, &c. demand Sight of the Original Sunnods and Perwannas, under the Seals of the Duans and Subas; and that the original Sunnods can't, without a great deal of

Difficulty, Be produced in every Subahship; they hope that a gracious Order may be issued out, commanding that a Copy from under the Seal of the Cawzee may suffice, and no Demands made for the original Sunnods and Perwannas, under the Seals of the Duans and Subas. It is accordingly ordered, that a Copy, from under the Seal of the Chief Cawzee be regarded; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that you, pursuant to the great Command, have due regard to the Copies of Sunnods relating to these People, under the Seal of the Chief Cawzee. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, faithful Friend; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come throughout all Ports and Provinces of the conquered Empire. Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman, Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in many Places the Company's Gomastahs and Dealers are much troubled for Phirmauths, &c. other Impositions laid on them; they hope Orders may be given, commanding that for Phirmauths, Phowdiarry, Zemeendarry, and all Manner of Impositions, they be unmolested; it is commanded that all Manner of Impositions be universally forgiven; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, not molest and trouble the said Nation for any Manner of Impositions, for that is forgiven; that they may go on in their Business with Cheerfulness and Satisfaction. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of Moon *Zelledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 7. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come at the Port of *Surat*, in the Province of *Bengal*, and all other Provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman, Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the Island of *Bombay*, in the Sea, in the said Island, *European* Siccas are current; they hope, from his Majesty's Favour, that they may have there, as at *Madrafs*, the Imperial Stamp on the Siccas coined there. It is commanded, that concerning the Currency of them you be wrote to, for which this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that you, conformable to the great Command, settle the Currency of the Rupees coined on that Island with the Imperial Stamp as all other Siccas are. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 8. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Hyder Cooli Cawn* be always in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman, Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Com-

pany, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the *English* had a House in *Surat* for a Factory, which is now gone to Ruin; that they are incapable of repairing it, till such Time that his Majesty is pleased to give it them; they hope that that House may be granted them, and without the City Four hundred Begaes of Ground, whereon they may make a House and Garden; and they will duly pay the Rent of said Ground into the Treasury. It is ordered, that they have the old House to repair, according to the *Hindostan* Architecture, but not to make Bulwarks, or any thing resembling Fortification, and not to make any Thing more than there is already to it: That in Case they do as aforesaid, let them receive no Obstructions. The Ground without the City, towards *Narbada Gate*, in the Town of *Bombay*, being taken in at the Walling of the City round, instead of which Ground, that they buy 1500 Bagaes of Ground towards *Awsa*, for which this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that, conformable to the great Command, you let them have the House to repair and live in on the Terms aforesaid, and 150 Bagaes of Ground, for a House and Garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient Custom, and receive no Molestation. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 9. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Hyder Cooli Cawn* be always in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman, Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; setting forth, That the Company are Custom free throughout the whole Empire, excepting at the Port of *Surat*, and at the said Port, in the Reign of *Shah Jahaan*, they paid a *per Cent* Custom; in the Time of *Aurengzeib*  $3\frac{1}{2}$  *per Cent*; and in the Reign of *Shah Alam*  $2\frac{1}{2}$  *per Cent*. was and is at present paid, upon Account of Abuses and Injustice of the Mutsuddys there; they have been for these Three Years forced to withdraw their Factory from that Place; they hope, according to Custom of other Provinces, and at the Port of *Hugely*, they may at the Port of *Surat* pay a yearly Fifteenth of Ten thousand Rupees, in Lieu of Custom. It is accordingly commanded, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that you do, conformable to the great Command, receive a Fifteenth of Ten thousand Rupees annually, instead of Custom, at the Port of *Surat*; and that they be Custom free, and called upon for no other Account whatsoever. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 10. Another Hufbullhookum, the same as above, Word for Word, directed to all Mutsuddys, that at present are, or hereafter may come, in the Province of *Ahomed Abad*, at the Port of *Surat* Royal Burmouch, &c. in the Province aforesaid.

N<sup>o</sup> 11. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys, that at present are, or hereafter may come at the fortunate Port of *Surat*; Know yee, at this Instant Mr. *John Surman, Coja Surbaud*, and Mr.

*Stevenson*,



*Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the *English* had a House in *Surat*, for a Factory, which is now gone to Ruin; that they are incapable of repairing it till such Time his Majesty is pleased to give it them: They hope that that House may be granted them, and without the City 400 Baggas of Ground, whereon they may make a House and Garden; and they will duly pay the Rent of the said Ground into the Treasury. It is commanded, That they have the old House to repair according to the *Hindostan* Architecture, but not to make Bulwarks or any thing resembling Fortification, and not to make any thing more than there is already to it: That in Case they do as aforesaid, let them receive no Obstructions. The Ground without the City, towards *Nurbada Gate*, in the Town of *Beamky*, being taken in at the Walling of the City round; instead of which Ground, that they buy 150 Baggas of Ground towards *Autas*, for which Reason this *Hufbullhookum* is issued out; that conformable to the great Command, you let them have the House to repair on the Terms as aforesaid, and 150 Baggas of Ground for a House and Garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient Custom, and receive no Molestation. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N° 12. Copy of a *Hufbullhookum*, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Caun*, the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all *Mutduddys* in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in *Bengal*, at *Curremabad*; Know ye, That at this Instant *Mr. John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That formerly in the Mints of *Rajamall* and *Dacca*, the Company's Gold and Silver were coined: It is now some Time since, that at *Curremabad* (*Muxoodawad*) the Mint has been settled; they Hope, according to former Custom, to have the Privilege of coining the Company's Money there; and that the Mint *Mutduddys* make no uncustomary Demands; and that in the Season, when other Merchants Money are coining, they may have Three Days in the Week for coining of the Company's Money. It is commanded, That you accordingly settle; for which Reason this *Hufbullhookum* is wrote; that you do, according to former Custom, settle the Coining of the Company's Gold and Silver in the Mint of *Curremabad*; and in the Season when other Merchants Goods is coined, if it be not against the King's Interest, let them have Three Days in the Week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Month *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N° 13. Copy of a *Hufbullhookum* under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Caun*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth, as followeth:

To all *Mutduddys* in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Bengal*, at the Port of *Hugely*, in the Provinces of *Behar* and *Oudessa*. Know ye, That at this Time *Mr. John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That

throughout the whole Empire the Company are Custom free, excepting at the Port of *Surat*; and that according to Sultan *Azzem Sha Behauder*, his and former *Sunnods*, they pay a *Pishcash* of R' 3000 yearly, in Lieu of Custom at the Port of *Hugely*: They hope, from the Imperial Favour, to obtain a gracious *Sunnod* according to the Tenor of former *Sunnods*. It is accordingly ordered, and they have obtained a gracious *Phirmaun*; for which Reason this *Hufbullhookum* is issued out; that you do know, pursuant to the great Command, this Nation is free from all Custom, and that you do let them go on in their mercantile Affairs without Molestation, and receive a *Pishcash* of R' 3000 annually at *Hugely*, in Lieu of Custom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N° 14. Copy of a *Hufbullhookum*, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Caun*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Aram Caun* live in Safety.

At this Instant *Mr. John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That in the Mints at *Rajamall* and *Dacca*, the Company's Gold and Silver were coined; it is now some Time since that at *Curremabad* (*Muxoodawad*) the Mint has been settled; they hope, according to former Custom, to have the Privilege of coining the Company's Money there; and that the Mint *Mutduddys* do not make any uncustomary Demands, only taking the Mint Charges as customary; and that in the Season when other Merchants Money are coined, they may have Three Days in the Week for the Coining of the Company's Money. It is commanded that you accordingly settle; for which Reason this *Hufbullhookum* is wrote; that you do according to former Custom settle the Coining of the Company's Gold and Silver, in the Mint at *Curremabad*; and in the Season of coining of other Merchants Money, if it be not against the King's Interest, let them have Three Days in the Week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of His Majesty's Reign.

N° 15. Copy of a *Hufbullhookum*, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Caun*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all *Mutduddys* in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come at *Azzemabad* (*Paina*) in the Province of *Behar*; Know ye, at this Time *Mr. John Surman*, *Caja Surbaud*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company; have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That at the Place aforesaid it is some Time since the *English* Factory has been in a hired House; they hope for the House of *Meermuzzaffer*, which being confiscated to the King, may be granted for their Residence. It is commanded that you be wrote to, if the said House is confiscated, that you let them have it for their Residence; they are not, at the Repairing of it, to build Bulwarks, or any Thing like Fortifications, for that is forbidden by his Majesty; for which Reason this *Hufbullhookum* is issued out; that you do act pursuant to the great Command. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zelbedge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 16. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Musfuddys in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come at the Port of *Chittigoom*, at the Port of *Gangam*, &c. Ports in all Provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know yee, at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, have, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That it sometimes happens *Englyb* Ships meeting with Storms, are forced into Ports, and drove ashore and wrecked; the Governors of those Ports, unjustly, in some Places, seize on all the Goods, and in other Places demand a Quarter Part Salvage; they hope for Orders to be given, commanding you to forbear molesting and doing them Injustice upon any Account whatsoever; but, on the contrary, to assist and help them as much as you can. It is commanded, That these People having their Factories in several Ports of the Empire, and Commerce to the Place of the Royal Residence; and having, by particular Kingly Favours, obtained Phirmauns Custom free; that in the saving of their Goods and in shewing them Favour, there be duly and particular Care taken; for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that you, pursuant to the great Command, do not molest and unjustly seize on their Goods; but on the contrary, assist and shew them Favour. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 17. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Sadutulla Cawn* live in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *Englyb* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Minister, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the Zemeendars at the Port of *Cuddalore*, in the War of *Chingee*, did send Powder, &c. to the Assistance of the Rebels, for which Reason, at that Instant, pursuant to *Aurangzeb's* Orders, they bought *Cuddalore*, &c. other Towns, by which Means the Passages to the Rebels might be stopp'd; at present several rebellious Zemeendars molest and give them much Trouble there; they hope Orders may be given you, commanding that you assist them, that they may be able to punish such Rebels. It is according commanded; for which Reason this is wrote, conformable to the great Command, that you act pursuant to the great Command, when these People endeavour to punish such Rebels, to help and give them your duty Assistance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 18. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Sadutulla Cawn* live in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *Englyb* Company, hath, through Intercession of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That throughout the whole Empire, the Company are Custom free at *Chinapatam* (*Madras*) in the Province of *Hyderabad*, from the very first settling a Factory there, pay annually into the Treas-

ury the Sum Pag 1200; they hope it may be continued according to ancient Usage. It is found by the King's Books, that at *Chinapatam* they do pay the aforesaid Sum into the Treasury. It is commanded that it be there according to ancient Custom; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued; that you, pursuant to the great Command, do know that these People are Custom free, and not upon any Account whatsoever molest them, and receive at *Chinapatam* into the Treasury the Sum 1200 Pag according to former Custom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 19. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Musfuddys in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Hyderabad*; Know yee, that at this Time Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *Englyb* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the Zemeendars at the Port of *Cuddalore*, in the War of *Chingee*, did send Powder, &c. to the Assistance of the Rebels; for which Reason, at that Instant, pursuant to *Aurangzeb's* Orders, they bought *Cuddalore*, &c. other Towns, by which Means the Passages to the Rebels might be stopp'd; at present, several rebellious Zemeendars molest and give them much Trouble there; they hope Orders may be given you, commanding that you assist them, that they may be able to punish such Rebels. It is accordingly commanded; for which Reason this is wrote, conformable to the great Command, that you act pursuant to the great Command, when these People endeavour to punish such Rebels, to help and give them your duty Assistance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 20. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

May the honourable *Avverruder Cawn* live in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *Englyb* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, that the Island of *Divoli* in the Sea, near the Port of *Matchlipatam*, in Possession of *Abram Palliger*, a Rebel, said Rebel never paying the Rent of said Island, which amounts to Pag 7000 per Annum; in Case the Renting of it be granted the Company, they will settle a Factory, and inhabit, to the great Improvement of it; by which Means Merchants will be encouraged to go backwards and forwards to *Matchlipatam*. It is accordingly granted; for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out, that you do, pursuant to the great Command, let the Company have the Renting of said Island, and receive annually into the Treasury the accustomary Rent. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 21. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Musfuddys in Government, that at present are, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Hyderabad*; Know yee, That at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *Englyb*

*English* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That at the Port of *Vizagapatam* the Company have a Factory for *Vizagapatam*, and Four other Towns near the Factory, they pay annually the accustomed Rent of R' 4862 into the Treasury of *Sicca Cool Perwanna* and *Woodapunda*, Two Towns, which pay Rupees 900 yearly Rent, being too far from the Factory, they desire may be returned. It is commanded, that of the 5 Towns, those Two which they desire to relinquish be taken back; and that the other Three remain in their Possession as formerly; they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which Reason this Hufbulhookum is issued out; that you do, pursuant to the great Command, let Three of the Five Towns remain in their Hands, and receive the accustomed Rent from them; and the other Two, which amounts to R' 900, take back into the Culla. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 22. Copy of a Hufbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbulmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Hyder Abaud*; Know yee, that at this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for, and in Behalf of the *English* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth; That at the Time of the War of *Chingee*, for assisting the King's Camp with Cannon and Provisions, as a Reward for which Service, *Aurengzeb* gave the *English* Company a Present of Five Towns, *Trivalore*, &c. which remained in their Possession for a long Time. It is now the Third Year since the King's Mutsuddys there has seized on them: That they assisted against the Competitor *Jabaundar Sha*, and acted in *Hugly* pursuant to Orders, in helping *Zeaude Cawn* with Powder, Lead, &c.; they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be, according as in the Days of *Aurengzeb*; for which Reason this Hufbulhookum is issued out; that you do let the said Towns remain in the Company's Possession as in the Days of *Aurengzeb*. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 23. Copy of a Hufbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbulmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys in Government, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Hyder Abaud*, at the Port of *Mitchlipatam* in the said Province; Know yee, by these Presents, that Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That the Island of *Divil*, in the Sea, near the above said Port, in Possession of *Abram Pulligar*, a Rebel, said Rebel never paying the Rent of said Island, which amounts to P<sup>r</sup> 7000 per Annum. In Case the Renting of it be granted the Company, they will settle a Factory, and inhabit there, to the great Improvement of it; whereby Merchants will be encouraged to go backwards and forwards to *Mitchlipatam*. It is commanded accordingly; for which Reason this Hufbulhookum is issued out; that you do, pursuant to the great Command, let the Company have the Renting of said Island, and receive annually the accustomed Rent in the Treasury. Regard this well.—

Vol. III.

Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 24. Copy of a Hufbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbulmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth; May the honourable *Sadattulla Cawn* live in Safety.

At this Instant Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That at the War of *Chingee*, &c. assisting the King's Camp with Cannon and Provisions, as a Reward for which Service *Aurengzeb* gave the Company a Present of Five Towns, *Trivalore*, &c. which remained in their Possession for a long Time; that it is now the Third Year since the King's Mutsuddys have seized on them; that they assisted against the Competitor *Jabaundar Sha*, and acted in *Hugly* pursuant to Orders, in helping *Zeaude Cawn* with Powder, Lead, &c.; they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be according as in the Days of *Aurengzeb*; for which Reason this Hufbulhookum is issued out; that you do let the said Towns remain in the Company's Possession, as in the Days of *Aurengzeb*. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 25. Copy of a Hufbulhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbulmook) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horle, Friend full of Truth; as followeth:

To all Mutsuddys that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Hyderabad*; Know yee, by these Presents, that Mr. *John Surman*, *Coja Surbaud*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, hath, through Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That throughout the Empire, the Company are Custom free at *Chinapatam* (*Madrafs*) in the Province of *Hyderabad* from the very first, and settling a Factory there, pay annually into the Treasury the Sum P<sup>r</sup> 1200; they hope it may be continued as formerly. It is found by the King's Books, that at *Chinapatam* they do punctually pay the aforesaid Sum into the Treasury. It is commanded, that it be there according to ancient Custom, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which Reason this Hufbulhookum is issued out; that you, pursuant to the great Command, do know that these People are Custom free, and not upon any Account whatsoever molest them; and receive at *Chinapatam* into the Treasury, the Sum Pag<sup>r</sup> 1200 according to former Custom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

A Letter from *Coja Surbaud*, at *Dilly*, to the honourable *Robert Hedges*, Esquire, President and Governor of *Fort William*. Received *March* 1717.

I now send inclosed Copies of Three Phirmauns come out, signed by the King; also Copies of Thirty Hufbulhookums; by perusing of which you will observe the Posture of our Negotiation, and that all the Company's Business is effected: That I have performed what Business of the Company was incumbent on me; which is plainly demonstrated by the Copies herewith sent. What more shall occur, I shall advise of by another Coffid, and send Second Copies of all the inclosed Papers. There is Two *Perwannas*, one to be directed to the Duan of *Hyderabad*, concerning *Divil* Island, and the other relating to *Vizagapatam*, to be directed to the Mutsuddys of *Sicca Cool*, which are not yet wrote, be-

cause their Names are not yet known, but To-morrow or next Day their Names will be known, when the Perwannas will be wrote; and likewise what is to be wrote on the Back of Two other Perwannas. 28 *Maabaram*, the 5 Year.

A Letter from *Coja Surbaud* to the honourable *Robert Hedges*, Esquire, President and Governor of *Fort William*. Received the 26th March 1717.

Under the 28th of the Moon *Maabaram*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign, inclosed I send foul Copies of Three *Phirmauns* and 30 *Perwannas*, which at that Time were not quite completed; since which the Three *Phirmauns* are wrote over fair, sealed and signed by the King, and only waits for the Vizier's affixing his Seal on them to complete them, which I hope in God will be in less than Ten Days Time, when I shall get attested Copies under the *Cauzee's* Seal, and forward them to you, till then rest with Satisfaction; 25 *Perwannas* being finished, inclosed comes Copies of them under the *Cauzee's* Seal, which I hope will come safe to you; the Remainder 7 *Perwannas* are in the Hands of *Ray Bulbund Duan Choofa*, which I hope in God in . . . Days more will also be finished. I have acted in the Company's Affairs with my utmost Care and Diligence, and have performed more than were incumbent on me. Those Persons who talked and wrote about me are frustrated in their Notions concerning me, which I hope, when it pleases God that I arrive with you, to give a clear Demonstration of.

*Bengall, Behar, and Oudeisa (Orisa)* *Phirmaun*.

To all Governors and their Assistants, Intelligencers, Jageedars, Phowidars, Collectors, Guardians of the Ways, Keepers of Passages, and Zemeendars, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Provinces of *Bengall, Behar, and Oudeisa (Orisa)* at the Port of *Hughy*, &c. Ports in the Provinces aforesaid; by these Presents, Know yee, from the Favour of the Imperial Majesty, That at this Time of Conquest, and in this flourishing Reign, Mr. *John Surman* and *Coja Surbaud*, Gomashtahs (Factors) of the *Englisb* Company, hath humbly presented their Petition; Setting forth, That according to Sultan *Azeem Sha Bebauder*, his and former Sunnods, they are free of Customs, throughout the whole conquered Empire, the Port of *Surat* excepted; and that they do annually pay into the Treasury, at the Port of *Hughy*, a Pithcah of Three thousand Rupees in Lieu of Customs; they hope that according to the Tenor of former Sunnods, they may be favoured with a gracious *Phirmaun* confirming them. Commanded and Ordered, That all their mercantile Affairs, together with their Gomashtahs (Factors) have free Liberty in all Subships to pass and repass to and fro, either by Land or Water, in any Port or District, throughout the several Provinces aforesaid, and know they are Custom free, that they have full Power and Liberty to buy and sell, at their Will and Pleasure, and that there yearly be received into the Treasury a Pithcah of Three thousand Rupees, as have been customary heretofore; that, if in any Place, or at any Time, Robberies are committed on their Goods, they be assisted in the getting of them again; that the Robbers be brought to Justice, and the Goods be delivered to the Proprietors of them; in whatsoever Place they have a mind to settle a Factory, fairly to buy and sell Goods in, they have Liberty, and be assisted; that on whomsoever Merchants, Weavers, &c. they have any Demands, on whatsoever Account, let them be aided, and their Debtors brought to co me to a true and fair Account, and be made to give their Gomashtahs (Factors) their right and just Demands; that no Person be suffered to injure and molest their Gomashtahs (Factors) wrongfully and unjustly; and for Customs on hired Boats (Cutbarrah) &c. belonging to them, that they

be not in any Manner molested or obstructed. They further petition, that if the Petty Duans of Subship demand Sight of the original Sunnods and *Perwannas* under the Seals of the Duans and Subas, the original Sunnods cannot possibly be produced in any Place without a great deal of Difficulty, they desire that a Copy, from under the Seal of the Chief *Cauzee*, be sufficient, Sight of the original Sunnods not being demanded, nor they forced to take Sunnods and *Perwannas* under the Duan and Suba, their Seals; that the Renting of *Calcutta, Soetuluia, and Govindapore*, in the *Purgana of Ameerabad, &c.* in *Bengal*, were formerly granted them, and bought by Consent from the Zemeendars of them, and are now in Company's Possession, for which they yearly pay the Sum R' 1195. 6; that Thirty-eight Towns more, amounting to R' 8121. 8. adjoining to the aforesaid Towns, which they hope the Renting of may be granted and added to the others they are already possessed of; that they will pay annually the same Amount of them; commanded that the Copy under the Seal of the Chief *Cauzee* be regarded; that the old Towns formerly bought by them, remain in their Hands as heretofore; and that they have the Renting of the adjacent Towns petitioned for, which they are to buy from the respective Owners of them, and that the Duan Suba give Permission: They still petition, That, from the Reign of *Aurengzeb*, *Madras* Coin were received into the Treasuries of Subships for under Value, and are still; notwithstanding they are full as valuable as *Surat* Rupees are, whereby they are great Losers; they hope the Imperial Order may be given for them to be received into the Treasuries as *Surat* Rupees are, in Case they are as good; that any Person, being Servant to the Company, eloping from them, from whom Debts and Accounts are due, they desire, that whosoever so deserts, be delivered back to the Chief of their Factory; that their Gomashtahs and Servants are molested and troubled for *Phowiderry* (abvabnumna), &c. Impositions which they request they may be exempted from. Commanded and Ordered, That from the 5th Year of this Blessed Reign, if *Madras* Rupees are made the same Goodness with *Surat* Siccas, there be no Discount on them; That whosoever of the Company's Servants, being Debtors, desert them, seize them, and deliver them to the Chief of their Factory; That they be not molested for *Phirmauns* (abvabnumna), &c. Impositions. They petition, That in *Bengal, Behar, and Oudeisa (Orisa)* the Company have Factories, and that in other Places they likewise desire to settle Factories; they accordingly desire, That in any Place where they have a mind to settle Factories, they may have Forty Begaes of Ground given them for the same: That it often happens Ships at Sea meet with tempestuous Winds, and are forced into Ports, and are sometimes drove ashore and wrecked, the Governors of Ports injuriously seize on the Cargoes of them, and in some Places demand a Quarter Part Salvage; that on the Island of *Bombay*, belonging to the *Englisb*, *European* Siccas are current; they request, That, according to the Custom of *Madras*, they may at *Bombay* coin Siccas. Commanded and Ordered, That according to Custom of their Factories in other Subships, execute these People, having their Factories in several Ports of the Kingdom, and Commerce to the Place of the Royal Residence, and have obtained very favourable *Phirmauns* Custom free; let there be particular Care taken, that there be duly Assistance given them about Goods and Wrecks, on all Occasions, on the Island of *Bombay*; let there be the Glorious Stamp on the Siccas coined there, passing them current, as all other Siccas are throughout the whole Empire. To all these tender punctual Obedience, observing and acting pursuant to the Tenor of this gracious *Phirmaun*, and not contrary in any respect whatsoever, nor demand yearly new Sunnods. Regard this particularly well.—Written the 27th of the Moon *Maabaram*, in the 5th Year of this glorious and ever happy Reign.

*Hyderabad (Madras) Phirmaun.*

To all Governors, and their Assistants, Intelligencers, Jageendars, Phowdars, Collectors, and Zemeendars, that are at present, or hereafter may come, in the Province of *Hyderabad*. Know ye, by these Presents, from the Favour of the Imperial Throne, and that at this Time of Conquest, and in this flourishing Reign, Mr. *John Surman* and *Coja Surbaud*, Gomahts (Factors) of the *English* Company, hath humbly presented their Petition, Setting forth, That throughout the Ports of *Hyderabad*, the Company are Custom free, and at (*Madras*) *Chinapatam*, they pay Pag<sup>t</sup> 1200 annually in the Treasury; they desire a gracious Phirmaun, that it may be at that Port as customary heretofore; and it accordingly appears, by the King's Books, that they do punctually pay the abovesaid Sum, at *Chinapatam*, into the Treasury. Commanded and Ordered, that it be according to ancient Custom: Their Gomahts (Factors) going backwards and forwards with their Goods and Necessaries, throughout all the Ports of all Subships, either by Land or Water, Know, they are Custom free; buying and selling, at their Will and Pleasure, let them receive no Obstructions; That Pag<sup>t</sup> 1200 at *Chinapatam*, be received as customary heretofore, and that they be called upon for no other Account whatsoever; if at any Time, and in any Place, it should happen any thing belonging to the *English* be stole, thoroughly assist in the re-getting of it, punishing the Robbers according to Justice, return the Goods to the right Owners of them. In whatsoever Place they have a mind to settle Factory to buy and sell Goods, in that they have free Liberty, and be assisted upon all fair and just Accounts. On whoever Merchants, &c. they have any Demands upon whatsoever Account, they be assisted, and their Debtors be brought to come to a true and fair Account; and that they be made to give their Gomahts their just Demands, not suffering any Person to molest or hurt their Gomahts wrongfully. They further petition, That at the War of *Chingee*, for assisting in sending Cannon and Provisions, &c. to the King's Camp, as a Reward for their Service, *Aurengzeb* gave the Company Five Towns, *Trivatore*, &c. which remained in their Possession for a long Time; that it is now Three Years since the King's Mutfuddys (Officers) there has seized on them. In this glorious Reign, that they assisted against the Pretender *Jabun Dar Sha*, in acting in *Hughy* pursuant to the Imperial Orders, in helping *Zauddacan* with Lead, Powder, &c. and using their utmost Endeavours, they hope they may be returned to their Possessions as formerly. Commanded and Ordered, That as in the Time of *Aurengzeb*, Possession be given them. They also petition, That the Company have a Settlement at the Port of *Vizagapatam*, for which and Four Towns more, near their Factory, they pay annually R<sup>y</sup> 4862 into the Treasury of *Sicca Cosh*, according to former Rights, and among the Towns aforesaid, *Purwanna* and *Woda Panda*, Two Villages, which pay R<sup>y</sup> 900. yearly Rent, being too far from the Factory, they desire may be returned. Commanded and Ordered, That of the Five Towns, those which they desire to relinquish be taken back, and that the other Three remain in their Possession as heretofore. They likewise petition, That the Petty Duans of Subships demand Sight of the original Sunnods and *Perwannahs*, under the Seals of the Duans and Subas; That the original Sunnods cannot possible be produced in every Place without a great deal of Difficulty; they humbly request, That a Copy from under the Seal of the Cauzee be sufficient, and no Demands made for Sight of the original Sunnods, nor the Duan and Suba insist, and give another thereby; That in the Island of *Bombay*, belonging to the *English*, *European* Siccas are current; they hope from the Imperial Favour, that, according to the Custom of *Chinapatam*, there be coined, at *Bombay*, Siccas; That Servants belonging to the Company, becoming Debtors, deserting from them, desire that they

who deserts, be returned back to the Chief of their Factory; That the Gomahts, and Dealers of the Company, are much troubled for Phowdaries (abvammumna) &c. Impositions which they request may be repealed. Commanded and Ordered, That a Copy from under the Seal of the Chief Cauzee be sufficient; That on the Island of *Bombay*, Siccas coined according to those of the Empire pass current throughout the whole Empire, as all other Siccas do; That whosoever of the Company's Servants, being Debtors, want to clope, seize them and deliver them back to the Chief of their Factory, and for that which is forbidden, Phowdarry (abvammumna) they be not molested. They petition, That *Chinapatam* Siccas are received into the Treasuries of all Subships with some Discount on them, notwithstanding they are the same Silver as those coined at the Port of *Surat*, by which they sustain great Loss; they hope, if in Cafe they are of the same Goodness as those of *Surat*, Orders may be given, that they be received into the Treasuries as *Surat*, &c. Siccas are; That in *Bengal*, *Behar*, *Oudeisa*, at *Madras*, *Vizagapatam*, &c. the Company have Factories; and that in other Places they may likewise settle Factories; they hope, that In whatever Place they do settle a Factory, they may have Forty Begacs of Ground given them for the same; That Ships at Sea happening to meet with tempestuous Winds, are sometimes obliged to run ashore, and are wrecked, the Governors of Ports unjustly seize on the Cargoes of them, and in some Places demand a Quarter Part Salvage. Commanded and Ordered, That from the 5th Year of this glorious Reign, if *Madras* Siccas are made the same Fineness and Goodness with *Surat* Siccas, there be no Discount on them; that they have according to Custom of their Factories, in other Subships. These People, having their Factories in several Ports of the Kingdom, and Commerce to the Place of the Royal Residence, and have obtained favourable Phirmauns, Custom free; take particular Care, that there be due Assistance given them about Goods and Wrecks. On all Occasions render punctual Obedience to all these Orders contained in this gracious Phirmaun, forbearing to act contrary, and not demand annually new Sunnods. Regard this particularly well. Written the 2d of the Moon *Jaffar*, in the 5 Year of this gracious Reign.

*Abomed Abaud (Surat) Phirmaun.*

To all Governors and their Assistants, Intelligencers; to all Jageendars, Phowdars, Collectors, Guardians of the Ways, Keepers of Passages, and Zemeendars, that are at present, or hereafter may come in the Province of *Abomed Abaud*, at the fortunate Port of *Surat*, at *Cojett*; Be in Hopes of the Imperial Favour, and Know ye, by these Presents, that at this Time of Conquest, and in this victorious Reign, Mr. *John Surman*, and *Coja Surbaud*, Gomahts (Factors) of the *English*, hath presented their Petition; Setting forth, That on the Goods of *Englishmen*, Customs throughout the whole conquered Empire, excepting at the Port of *Surat*, are pardoned at the said Port, in the Reign of *Shah Jabann* they paid 2 per Cent. Custom, and in the Time of *Aurengzeb* 3½ per Cent. Custom was settled, being excused in all other Places; and in the Reign of *Shah Jalum* 2½ per Cent. Custom was, and is at present, paid there, by Reason of the Oppressions of the Mutfuddys there, they have been forced, for these Three Years, to withdraw their Factory from that Place. In the Provinces of *Behar* and *Oudeisa*, their Nation pay no Custom at the Port of *Hughy*; in the Subship of *Bengal* they annually pay a Pithcash of Three thousand Rupees, in Lieu of Custom; they hope to enjoy the Privilege according to the Custom of other Ports, at the Port of *Surat*, and pay a yearly Pithcash instead of Custom; they are willing and have agreed to pay annually a Pithcash of Ten thousand Rupees. Commanded and Ordered, That since they assent to pay a yearly Pithcash of Ten thousand Rupees at the Port of *Surat*, receive

it, and let them be called upon for no other Account whatsoever; their Gomastahs (Factors) going backwards and forwards with their Goods and Necessaries throughout all the Ports of this Subahship, either by Land or Water, Know, they are Custom free, buying and selling at their Will and Pleasure, let them receive no Obstructions. If at any Time, and in any Place, it should happen that any Goods belonging to them should be lost, thoroughly assist in the getting of them, punishing the Rogues according to Justice, and the Goods return to the right Owners of them; in whatsoever Place they have a mind to settle a Factory, to buy and sell Goods, in that they have free Liberty, and be assisted upon all fair and just Accounts. On whoever Merchants and others they have any Demands, upon whatsoever Account, they be assisted, and their Debtors be brought to come to a true and fair Account, and be made to give the *English* their just Demands, not suffering any Person to molest and injure their Gomastahs wrongfully. They further petition, That the Petty Duans of Subahships demand Sight of the original Sunnods and Purwanas, under the Seals of the Duans and Subas; that the original Sunnods cannot possibly be produced in every Place without a great deal of Difficulty; they request, That a Copy from under the Seal of the Cauzee be sufficient, and no Demands made for Sight of the original Sunnods, nor the Duan and Suba insist to give another thereby; That in the Island of *Bombay*, belonging to the *English*, *European* Coin are current; they hope from the Imperial Favour, that according to the Custom of *Madrass*, there may be coined at *Bombay*, Siccas; That Servants belonging to the Company, becoming Debtors, deserting from them, desire that they who so desert, be returned back to the Chief of their Factory; That the Gomastahs and Dealers of the Company are much troubled for Phowdarry (abvabumnuu) &c. Impositions which the request may be repealed. Commanded and Ordered, That a Copy, under the chief Cauzee's Seal, be sufficient; That on the Island of *Bombay* Siccas coined, according to those of this Kingdom, pass current throughout the whole Empire, as all other Siccas do; That whoever of the Company's Servants, becoming Debtors, want to elope, seize them and deliver them back to the Chief of their Factory; and for that which is forbidden (abvabumnuu) Phowdary, &c. they be not molested. They also petition, That in *Regal*, *Behar*, and *Oudeja*, the Company have Factories; and that in other Places they likewise design to settle Factories; they hope that in any Place where they settle a Factory, 40 Begaes of Ground may be given them for the same; Ships at Sea happening to meet with tempestuous Winds, are sometimes obliged to run ashore and are wrecked, the Governors of Ports injuriously seize on the Goods of them, demanding in some Places a Quarter Part Salvage. Commanded and Ordered, That they have according to Custom of their Factories in other Subahships; these People having their Factories in several Ports of the Kingdom, and Commerce to the Place of the Royal Residence, and have obtained favourable Phirmauns Custom free; take particular Care, that there be due Assistance given them concerning Goods and Wrecks on all Occasions. To all these Orders render Obedience, forbearing to act contrary to this gracious Phirmaun, nor every Year demand new Sunnods. Regard this particularly well.—Written the 4th of the Moon *Saffar*, in the 5th Year of this glorious Reign.

A Letter from *Caja Surband*, dated 3d of the Moon *Jamadal Ovu*, the 6 Year of His Majesty's Reign, to the honourable *Robert Hedges*, Esquire, President, &c. Council. Received 7th April 1717.

The 28th of the Moon *Mohurree*, I sent you by my own Coffids four Copies of Three Phirmauns, and

30 Perwannas, which was not then attested by the Cauzee; and under Date of the 23d of the Moon *Rubelluull*, Copies of Three Phirmauns, which only wanted the Vizier's Seal to be affixed on them, to have perfected them without the Cauzee's Seal; and also Copies of 25 Perwannas, completed and attested by the Cauzee, were inclosed and forwarded to you by my own Coffids.

The 3 Phirmauns having the Vizier's Seal put on them, has entirely perfected them. I have just now received them, Copies whereof, under the Cauzee of this Place, his Seal, are this Instant forwarded to you, which I trust will come safe to your Hands, and I congratulate the Company on this Occasion. Thanks be to God, the Company's Business is all quite finished according to their Desire.

The great Care and Trouble which I have taken in this Negotiation to fulfil my Promise to you is inexpressible; from the Time of *Tamurlane* to this Instant, no Nation have been able to procure such a Phirmaun; three or four Times more than what you desired are obtained; what you promised for my Gratuity, if you should give me three or four Times as much more, it would not recompense my Service and Care. Now ye may greatly rejoice, since you have every Thing to your Content; and when I arrive with you, glad me that I may forget the great Fatigue and Trouble which I have undergone in this Negotiation. The *Dutch*, and other Embassies which went before, have spent each from 15 to 25 Lack of Rupees, and not one amongst them all have procured the tenth Part of what I have. I have acted in this Affair with the utmost Care and Industry, and have done what I knew through Means of my Comforts here, I have cost near a Lack of Rupees; and all the Baseness which has been done by those People, I have bore with Patience, because the Company's Affairs else would have been ruined. By God's Blessing, all our Business is happily ended, and I hope God willing, in 15 Days more, to obtain Leave, and be on my Way towards you; rest with Satisfaction, and after my Arrival, what more I have to relate will be made known to you; some unfair Dealings, which have been done within these Three Years, contrary to our Promise, which are not requisite that I write you now, but when I come with you I must inform you.

Nº 26. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, faithful Friend, as followeth:

May the honourable *After Cawn* be always in Safety.

At this Instant, *Mr. John Surman*, *Caja Surband*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, for and in Behalf of the *English* Company, hath, through the Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty; Setting forth, That at *Azzermabad (Paina)* in the Province of *Behar*, it is some Time since the *English* Factory has been in a hired House; they hope for the House of *Meermuazuffer*, which is confiscated to the King, to be granted for their Residence. It is commanded that you be writ to, if that House be confiscated, that you let them have it to live in; but at the Time of repairing it they are not to build Bulwarks, or any Thing like Fortification, for that is forbidden by the King; for which Reason this Husbullhookum is issued out; that you do act pursuant to the great Command. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon *Zeeledge*, the 5 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

Nº 27. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the Seal of the (Cootbullmoolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer *Syad Abidulla Cawn*; the victorious in Battle, General of the Horse, faithful Friend, as followeth:

To all Mutaddays (Officers) in Government, that at present are, and hereafter shall come throughout the Province of the conquered Empire. Know ye, by these Presents, That at this Time, Mr. John Surmas, Cajo Surband, and Mr. Stevenson, for and in Behalf of the English Company, hath, through the Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty, requesting, That a gracious Order may be given you, commanding, that in Case any of the Company's Servants become Debtors, and elope from them, that you seize and deliver them back to the Chief of the Factory. It is accordingly commanded, for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out, that you do pursuant to the great Command, in Case any of the Company's Servants become Debtors, and desert, seize and deliver them back to the Chief of the Factory. Regard this punctually.—Written the 9th of the Moon Zeeledge, the 3 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 28. Copy of a Hufbullhookum under the Seal of the (Coorbailimpolk) Prime Minister; the Lord High Treasurer Syad Avidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in Battle, General of the Horie, true to his Friends, as follows:

To all Mutaddays (Officers) in Government, that at present are, or hereafter shall be, in the Province of Bengal. Know ye, by these Presents, That at this Time Mr. John Surmas, Cajo Surband, and Mr. Stevenson, for and in Behalf of the English Company, hath, through the Intercessions of the High Ministers, presented their Petition to his Imperial Majesty, Setting forth, That in the Town of Calcutta, in the Purganna of Amira-baud, in the Province aforesaid, the English have their Factory, the Farming of Calcutta, &c. Three Towns they have had for a long Time, the Rent of which annually being R<sup>y</sup> 1195, is duly paid by them; Thirty-eight Towns more, adjacent to the aforesaid Towns, the Rent of which amounting to R<sup>y</sup> 8121. 8, they hope to have the Farming of them, and they will annually pay the Rent thereof according to the Statutes in the King's Books; they likewise desire to have Calcutta called after his Majesty's great Name; and the other Towns to be taken from their several Purgannas and united into one Purganna. It is commanded, that the Farming of the Towns, bought formerly, remain in their Possession as heretofore, and that they have the Liberty of Farming the other Towns petitioned for, &c. according to former Custom, they buy them by the Assent of the respective Owners of them, then you are to give Permission; for which Reason this Hufbullhookum is issued out; that you let them have the Farming of the former Villages and the present, pursuant to the great Command, according to the List on the Back of this, and take the yearly Rent of them into the Treasury. Regard this punctually.—Written the 9th of the Moon Zeeledge, the 5th Year of his Majesty's glorious and ever happy Reign.

List on the Back, of Villages in the Purganna of Calcutta, &c. in the Subship of Bengal, according to the Petition of Mr. John Surmas, Cajo Surband, and Mr. Stevenson; the Renting of which being granted to the English Company, and the Towns which they formerly bought remaining according to ancient Custom: The other Villages petitioned for, if by the Assent of the Owners they do buy them according to ancient Custom, give Permission, and settle. The whole Amount is R<sup>y</sup> 9216. 14. 3, according to the above named their Petition: viz.

In the Purganna, or Division of Calcutta R <sup>y</sup>	2151 13 3
In the Purganna, or Division of Amira-	
band —————	1815 9 6
In the Purganna, or Division of Burro	869 15 3
In the Purganna, or Division of Man-	
para —————	223 7 6

In the Purganna, or Division of Nades	172 13 6
In the Purganna, or Division of Picaun	4078 3 3
48 Towns.	

Note: That the Account of these Towns are not at Court; therefore according to the Account of the Suba Books, more or less, settle.

According to former Customs, the Towns of Calcutta, &c. Three Towns R<sup>y</sup> 1195. 6, viz.

In the Purganna of Amira-baud Calcutta, &c. R<sup>y</sup> 970. 8, viz. De Calcutta R<sup>y</sup> 468. 9. Sontalutia R<sup>y</sup> 500. 15. Grovindpore R<sup>y</sup> 224. 14. In the Purganna of Picaun.

The present R <sup>y</sup> 8121. 8. 2, viz.	
In the Purganna, or Division of Cal-	
cutta —————	R <sup>y</sup> 2151 13 3
In the Purganna, or Division of Amira-	
band —————	840 1 6
In the Purganna, or Division of Burro	869 15 3
In the Purganna, or Division of Nades	172 13 6
In the Purganna, or Division of Manpara	223 7 6
In the Purganna, or Division of Picaun	3863 5 3

The particular Account of the Villages petitioned for at present, according to the List under the Seals of the aforesaid Persons, amounting to R<sup>y</sup> 8121. 8. 3. Towns 38, viz.

Duconnendans R <sup>y</sup> 426. 5, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	R <sup>y</sup> 38 8 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	12 — 3
In the Purganna of Amira-baud —————	376 — —
Bergee R <sup>y</sup> 283. 13. 6, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	32 6 3
In the Purganna of Amira-baud —————	45 15 3
In the Purganna of Nades —————	1 14 —
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	213 10 —
Baudfustempore R <sup>y</sup> 127. 2. 6, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	11 7 3
In the Purganna of Amira-baud —————	20 8 —
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	95 3 6
Sulca R <sup>y</sup> 277. 11. 3, viz.	
In the Purganna of Burro —————	61 11 —
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	216 — 3
Havroo R <sup>y</sup> 383. 2. 9, viz.	
In the Purganna of Burro —————	237 5 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	145 13 3
Candee R <sup>y</sup> 138. 5. 3, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	8 7 —
In the Purganna of Burro —————	129 14 3
Ramkistempore R <sup>y</sup> 169. 14. 9, viz.	
In the Purganna of Burro —————	89 3 9
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	80 11 —
Nautia R <sup>y</sup> 580. 14. 9, viz.	
In the Purganna of Burro —————	351 13 —
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	229 1 9
Billegijom R <sup>y</sup> 318. 9, viz.	
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	13 10 —
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	304 6 9
Oladondoe R <sup>y</sup> 314. 14, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	194 1 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	120 12 9
Congarracoffa R <sup>y</sup> 408. 6. 3, viz.	
In the Purganna of Nades —————	170 15 3
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	37 7 —
Meerzapore R <sup>y</sup> 172. 13. 6, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	57 15 9
In D <sup>o</sup> Picaun —————	115 13 9
Culca R <sup>y</sup> 572. 10. 6, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	127 6 9
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	443 3 9
Buggaree R <sup>y</sup> 228. 13. 3, viz.	
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	166 1 9
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	62 11 6
Sunda R <sup>y</sup> 648. 5. 3, viz.	
In the Purganna of Calcutta —————	62 — 3
In the Purganna of Picaun —————	586 9 —
Dulunda	

# 206 1772. FIRST REPORT on the Nature, State,

<i>Dulanda R</i> 206. 7. 6; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	111 6 6
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	195 1 —
— <i>Tupfanda R</i> 290. 10. 9; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	73 8 —
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	217 2 9
— <i>Mullea Balcha R</i> 206. 14. 6. viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	31 11 —
In the Purganna of Picaun	—	175 3 6
— <i>Currangee R</i> 89. 11. 6; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	14 13 6
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	74 14 —
— <i>Cullemba R</i> 383. 8; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	270 3 3
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	113 4 9
— <i>Cundulpadee R</i> 101. 13. 6; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	31 9 3
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	70 4 3
— <i>Amilla R</i> 229. 2. 6; viz.		
In the Purganna of Calcutta	—	61 9 9
D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> Picaun	—	167 8 9
— <i>Duccaneepakpadee, in the Purganna Amei-</i>		
— <i>rabaud</i>	—	145 2 3
— <i>Hogulundee, in the Purganna of Picaun</i>	—	137 11 3
— <i>Somlee, in the Purganna of Manpore</i>	—	81 15 6
— <i>Mutcaunda, in D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	118 12 9
— <i>Chopada, in the Purganna of Calcutta</i>	—	63 10 9
— <i>Bangbaree, in D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	49 8 9
— <i>Arpoolee, in the Purganna of Manpore</i>	—	22 11 9
— <i>Syalta, in the Purganna of Calcutta</i>	—	118 9 9
— <i>Baudfanda, D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	40 8 —
— <i>Seepore, in D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	41 6 6
— <i>Saidnucbee, in D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	211 3 —
— <i>Custanga, in D<sup>r</sup> — D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	37 14 —
— <i>Puttera, in D<sup>r</sup> Picaun</i>	—	101 1 6
— <i>Baudulnedeau, D<sup>r</sup></i>	—	125 3 3
— <i>Balkullutta, in Calcutta</i>	—	114 3 6
— <i>Chetapore, in Purgannah Ameirabaud</i>	—	252 8 —

N<sup>o</sup> 29. Directed to *Airam Cawn*, Duan of Bengal, the same as the foregoing, Word for Word, with the Lift of the Towns on Back as the foregoing.

Perwanna under *Jaffar Cawn's* Seal, obtained by Mr. Samuel Feake, at *Coffimbazar*. Received 20th of July 1717; as followeth:

May his Highness, the Support of Nobles, the honourable *Cawn Maundee Allee Cawn*, be always surrounded with his Majesty's Favour.

The Vakeel of the *English* Company has represented, that *Mabomed Sallab Drega*, of the *Cherabaf Conna*, does unjustly molest *Succada*, Gomashtah of his Master, who resides at *Jabaungeernagur (Dacca)* for which Reason this is wrote; that if it be true, you bid the aforesaid *Drega* forbear injuriously oppressing the *English's* Gomashtahs: But if the Story should be otherwise, do you write it. The 3d of *Shabann*, the 6 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

*Duffkbut* (sign'd)

To these People Favour and Encouragement should be shewn, because they are great Merchants, and are exalted by their eminent Services.

Perwanna under *Jaffar Cawn's* Seal, obtained by Mr. Feake, &c. at *Coffimbazar*. Received in Fort William the 5th of October 1717; as followeth:

May his Highness, the Support of Nobles, Sultan *Huffain Cawn*, be always surrounded with his Majesty's Favour.

The *English* Company's Vakeel has represented, that his Master's Gomashtah, who have resided at *Maban-dopoe* (subordinate to *Rajamall*) for a long while, to buy and sell Goods; That your Deputy have unjustly extorted 50 Rs. from said Gomashtah; for which this is wrote; that if it be true, you make the said Rupees to be refunded to the said Gomashtah, and take his Satisfac-

tory Certificate and send it hither: Do you likewise give particular Orders, that Nobody molest said Gomashtah injuriously, that he may remain there, carrying on with Content his Business. Regard this well. Written the 26th of the Moon *Ramassan*, the 6 Year of his Majesty's Reign.

Translate of King *Farrucksher* his Phirmaun, for the honourable *Robert Hedges*, Esquire, President in Bengal, in Answer to the Petition sent by Mr. John Surman, &c.

The most worthy amongst your Peers, the great amongst your Brothers, and worthy of my Favour, *Robert Hedges*, President for the *English* Company: Be always in Hopes of kindly Favour; and know at this Time of Conquest, and being Conqueror, the Petition that desired a Phirmaun for the Currency of Trade for the *English*, and Pardon of Customs, according to ancient Usage, with the *Pisheah*, accompanied by *English Surman* and *Srad Armenian* to the Holy Place that carries the Ensigns of Miracles, whose Height approaches the Skies, is received, and has past the Royal View, and the *Pisheah* that you sent has been presented before his Sacred Majesty, and pleased him, with his Royal Acceptance after the most Holy Place; being acquainted of your entire Sincerity, and strict Obedience, out of his Majesty's most particular Favours, have granted Phirmauns, conformable to the Petition of the above *Srad*, for the Currency of the Company's Trade, and Pardon of Customs, pursuant to former Rule; you ought, in a high and grateful Degree, to acknowledge this great Royal Favour, with a serious Temper, and perfect Satisfaction; go on in your Business and Merchandize, your upright Behaviour and perfect Obedience will be a Means of your future Protection. The 19th Day of the Moon *Yamadullacur*; wrote in the Six Year of our glorious Reign.

The Vizier's Title, which is wrote on the Back of the Four Phirmauns.

Under the Protection of the Mountain of vast Riches, in whom the King puts his Confidence; Chief of the Nobles of the greatest Port; conspicuous among the Great; the great Protector of the Country, and its Riches; the Opener of the Way to Fortune and Riches; Master of the Sword and Pen; the Light and Exalter of the Spear and Order; Vizier of a true Judgment unalterable; Chief of the Country; Prime Minister, in whose Hands are all Power; the Lord High Treasurer, the Valiant, the Victorious in Battle, faithful Friend, and the Mirror of Viziers.

Copy of a *Hufbulhookum*.

An Account of the Europeans at *Hugbly*, as represented by the Government of *Hugbly* to *Muxadavad*; viz.

It's customary, upon every new King's Accession to the Throne, and upon every Subah's and Duan's Accession, for the Europeans to get new Phirmaunds and new Perwannahs to carry on their Business, and to give a Present; for which Reason I send an Account of the Nation; that as it is now the Time for dispatching their Ships, if they are dealt hard with, it will be for the Advantage of the King and Subah; viz.

The *English*, in *Aurengzeb's* Time, obtained a Phirmaund, exempting them from all Customs, in Lieu of which a *Pisheah* of Three thousand Rupees was settled, which they annually pay into the Treasury at *Hugbly*, since which they have not had either Phirmaund or Perwannah; they carry on their Mercantile Affairs in an unjust and unprecedented Manner, by which the King's Treasury is lessened; the Phirmaund they procured in *Phiruchter's* Time has never been seen, nor they ever had a Perwannah from the Nabob for carrying on their Business.



The Dutch, in *Aurangzeb's* Time, obtained a Phirmaund, granting Leave to Trade, paying 3½ per Cent. into the Treasury at *Hugly*. In *Shaw Alum's* Time they obtained a Phirmaund for paying 2½ per Cent. Customs, and they, conformable to which they obtained a *Perwannah* from *Jaffer Cawn*, when he was called *Musjid Cooli Cawn*, by virtue of which they now carry on their Business; besides this, they have had no other new *Perwannah*, nor made any Presents to the King or Subah.

The French, in *Aurangzeb's* Time, obtained a Phirmaund, also the Subah and Duan's *Perwannah*, and, according to the Dutch, they paid Four per Cent. Customs; and when the Dutch got the Customs settled at 2½ per Cent. they likewise got a *Perwannah* from the Nabob to pay the same; besides which, they had no other new *Perwannah*, nor made any Present to the King or Subah: The *Offenders* have no *Rhirmaund*; they have obtained *Jaffer Cawn's* *Perwannah*, by virtue of which they carry on their Business.

The *Armenians* used formerly to pay 5 per Cent. Customs; in *Shaw Alum's* Time they obtained a Phirmaund for paying no more than 3½ per Cent. and according to which Phirmaud they have *Jaffer Cawn's* *Perwannah*, and they now carry on their Business in *Calcutta* under the *English* Protection, and those of them that want a *Perwannah* for *Surati*, comes to *Hugly* and gets one, by which the King is a great Sufferer.

It has not been customary for *Europeans* to trade in Salt; this Year some of the *English* have sent large Quantities of Salt to *Patna*, without paying the Custom: It has always been customary for the Weavers to pay 5 per Cent. on all *Photaes*, before they sell any to *Europeans*, and now the *English*, contrary to Custom, in the adjacent Towns of *Calcutta*, and in *Burdwan*, buy *Photaes*, and carry them, with their *Dusticks*, without paying the usual Customs; and upon all Goods that are bought and sold in *Calcutta*, they collect a Duty, by which the King is a great Sufferer.

It has not been customary for the *Europeans* to traffick in Grain, &c. *Estables* they used to have allowed them (by Leave from hence) just a sufficient Quantity for their own Food; and the *English* now buys Grain in every Place, and transports it on board their Ships, by way of Merchandize, by which the King is a great Sufferer, and Grain is made dear and scarce in this Country.

All Goods imported formerly by *Europeans*, used to be sold to the *Patna* Merchants, &c. who used to pay the Customs thereon; and for these several Years the *English* send what Goods they import to *Patna*, &c. *Aurung*, by which there is no Custom paid; here they pay a *Piscicath* of Rupees, Three thousand for the Company and other *Englishmen*, by which the King is a great Sufferer; and the Dutch, ever since they have had the Custom settled at 2½ per Cent. send their Goods to *Patna* and other Places, and do not sell to those who used to pay the Customs here, by which the King is a great Sufferer.

Transcribed per T. Fenwick.

Examined with A. Dawson.

Copy of a *Dustuck*, under the Seal of *Commodore Cawne*, Grand Vizier, directed to all *Phowdars*, Guardians of the Roads, Keepers of Passages, and *Zemindar*, in the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Beharr*, and *Orissa*.

Know ye, that the *English* Company are free of Customs, pursuant to the Tenor of the Royal Phirmaund, in Lieu of which they pay an annual *Piscicath* of Three thousand Rupees into the Treasury, at the Port of *Hugly*; and every Year, their Boats, laden with Goods, do pass and repass throughout the aforementioned Provinces; for which Reason this is wrote, that they be not troubled or molested for *Raudary*, &c. but on the contrary, that you do pass them through your

several Districts in Safety. The 27th *Shabann*, the 9th Year of his Majesty's Reign.

Transcribed per A. Dawson.

Examined with Sol. Margat.

Copy of a *Hufbullhookum*, under the Seal of *Commodore Cawne*, Vizier, directed to all *Mutfidys*, present and to come, in the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Beharr*, and *Orissa*.

Know ye, that the *English* Company's *Vaqueel* has presented a Petition; Setting forth, That his Masters have a *rhirmaund*, exempting them from all Customs, in Lieu of which they annually pay into the Treasury at *Hugly* a *Piscicath* of Three thousand Rupees: That the Subah and Duan's People, in every *Subahship*, and the *Phoudars*, &c. on the Roads, molest and trouble them, contrary to the Tenor of the Royal Phirmaund: He is in Hopes of obtaining a *Hufbullhookum*, confirming their being free of Customs, pursuant to the Royal Phirmaund. It appears by the Books, that in Lieu of Thirty thousand Rupees, which they pay into the Treasury at the Port of *Hugly*, they are free of all Customs; for which Reason they have obtained this *Hufbullhookum*, ordering you to act conformable to the Royal Phirmaund, and in no ways to impede or molest them. The 17th of the Moon *Rajab*, in the 9th Year of his Majesty's ever happy Reign.

There are Three other *Perwannahs* or *Hufbullhookums*, of the same Tenor as the foregoing, directed to *Jaffercaun*, Subah of *Bengal*, and *Suffrage Cawne*, Duan of *Bengal*, and the Third to *Asteram Cawne*, Duan of *Patna*.

Transcribed per W. Davis.

Examined with Sol. Margat.

Copy of a *Perwannah*, under the Seal of *Suffrage Cawne*, Duan of *Bengal*, directed to all *Mutfidys*, present and to come, to all *Gomastahs* of *Jaggers*, *Phoudars*, *Zemindars*, *Collectors*, and *Recorders*, in the Provinces of *Bengal* and *Orissa*.

Know ye, that King *Farruckseer's* Phirmaund and *Perwannahs*, granted the *English* Company, has been presented by Mr. *Stevenson*; by which it is perceivable, that they pay annually a *Piscicath* of Three thousand Rupees in the Treasury at *Hugly*, besides which, they are not to be molested for any Thing more; and that in all Places you assist them in buying and selling their Goods; in case they have any Account or Demands on any Weavers, &c. oblige them to pay their *Gomastahs*, and not suffer any Body to molest or impede their *Gomastahs*, nor trouble them on Account of their own or hired Boats for *Cutbarah*: That whosoever of the Company's *Gomastahs*, being Debtors, desert them, seize them, and deliver them to the Chiefs of their Factories; that they be not molested for *Phoudary*, &c. (Abobmunna) Impositions: That in Case any of their Goods or Ships are drove ashore, or wrecked, let particular Care be taken thereof: That at *Calcutta* they have a Settlement, and the renting of *Calcutta*, &c. Towns in the *Purgane* of *Amiravud*, &c. were formerly granted them, and bought by Consent from the *Zemindars* of them, and are now in their Possession: That Thirty-eight Towns more, amounting to Rupees Eight thousand One hundred and Twenty-one, and Eight Annas, adjoining to the aforesaid, in case they purchase them by the Consent of the Proprietors, let the Duan put them in Possession thereof: It appearing by the Registers of the Duan, that *Calcutta*, &c. Three Towns, are in their Possession, according to former Custom, for which they pay yearly Rupees One thousand One hundred and Ninety-five, and the other Thirty-eight Towns, which they have not yet bought, neither are in their Possession; you must let *Calcutta*, &c. Three Towns remain in their Possession as heretofore, and

receiv:

receive the customary Rent thereof; and, according to the Tenor of the Royal Phirmaund, whereon is wrote on the Back of this, do you act in every respect, and not contrary. The First of the Moon *Zeibedge*, in the Ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

Articles of a Treaty and Agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, on the Part of the *English East India Company*, and the Nabob *Syef ul Dowla*.

On the Part of the Company.

We the Governor and Council do engage to secure to the Nabob, *Syef ul Dowla*, the Subahdarree of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and to support him therein, with the Company's Forces, against all his Enemies.

On the Part of the Nabob.

I.

The Treaty which my Father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first Accession to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the Honour and Reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my Brother, Nabob *Najim ul Dowla*; the same Treaties; as far as is consistent with the true Spirit, Intent, and Meaning, thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the *English East India Company* the Dewannahship of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, as a free Gift, for ever; and I having an entire Confidence in them, and in their Servants settled in this Country, that nothing whatever be proposed or carried into Execution by them, derogating from my Honour, Dignity, Interest, and the Good of my Country, do therefore, for the better conducting the Affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my Honour and Interest, and that of the Company, in the best Manner, agree, that the protecting the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and the Force sufficient for that Purpose, be entirely left to their Direction and good Management, in Consideration of their paying the King, *Shaw Allum*, by Monthly Payments, as by Treaty agreed on, the Sum of Rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9, and to me, *Syef ul Dowla*, the annual Stipend of Rupees 41,86,131. 9; viz. the Sum of Rupees 17,78,854. 1 for my House, Servants, and other Expenses indispensably necessary, and the remaining Sum of 24,07,277. 8 for the Support of such *Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundesses*, as may be thought proper for my Afwarry only; but on no Account ever to exceed that Amount.

III.

The Nabob *Minaub Dowla*, who was, at the Instance of the Governor and Gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the Provinces, and invested with the Management of Affairs, in Conjunction with *Mab Rajab Doolabram* and *Juggut Seat*, shall continue in the same Post, and with the same Authority; and having a perfect Confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the disbursing of the above Sum of 24,07,277. 8 for the Purposes above mentioned.

This Agreement, by the Blessing of God, I hope will be inviolably observed as long as the *English Company's* Factories continue in *Bengal*. Dated this 19th Day of May, in the Year of our Lord 1766.

W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,  
H. Vorell,  
Rand<sup>d</sup> Marriott,  
H. Watts,  
Claud. Russell,  
W<sup>m</sup> Alderjy,  
Tho. Kelsall,  
Charles Floyer.

Articles of a Treaty and Agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, on the Part of the *English East India Company*, and the Nabob *Syef ul Dowla*.

On the Part of the Company.

We the Governor and Council do engage to secure to the Nabob *Syef ul Dowla*, the Subahdarree of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and to support him therein, with the Company's Forces, against all his Enemies.

On the Part of the Nabob.

I.

The Treaty which my Father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first Accession to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the Honour and Reputation of the Company, and the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my Brother, the Nabob *Nazim ul Dowla*; the same Treaties, as far as is consistent with the true Spirit, Intent, and Meaning, thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the *English East India Company*, the Dewannahship of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, as a free Gift, for ever; and I having an entire Confidence in them, and in their Servants settled in this Country, that nothing will be proposed, or carried into Execution, by them, derogating from my Honour and Dignity, and the true Interest and the Good of my Country, do therefore, for the better conducting the Affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my Honour and Interest, and that of the Company, in the best Manner, agree that the Protecting the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and the Force sufficient for that Purpose, be entirely left to their Direction and good Management; in Consideration of their paying the King, *Shaw Allum*, by Monthly Payments, as by Treaty agreed on, the Sum of Rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9, and to me, *Syef ul Dowla*, the annual Stipend of Rupees 41,86,131. 9; viz. the Sum of Rupees 17,78,854. 1 for my House, Servants, and other Expenses indispensably necessary, and the remaining Sum of 24,07,277. 8 for the Support of such *Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundesses*, as may be thought proper for my Afwarry only; but on no Account ever to exceed that Amount.

III.

The Nabob, *Minaub Dowla*, who was, at the Instance of the Governor and the Gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the Provinces, and invested with the Management of all Affairs, in Conjunction with *Mbaraga Doolabram* and *Juggut Seat*, shall continue in the same Post, and with the same Authority; and having a perfect Confidence in him, I further agree to let him have the Disbursing of the above Sum of 24,07,277. 8, for the Purpose above mentioned.

This Agreement, by the Blessing of God, I hope will be inviolably observed as long as the *English Company's* Factories continue in *Bengal*. Dated the 18th Day of May, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six.

(Signed) Governor and Council. (Signed) The Nabob. *Fort William*, 28th Nov. 1766.

A true Copy.

W<sup>m</sup> Alderjy, Secretary.



Signed E. Baber, Secretary.

Articles of a Treaty and Agreement, between the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, on the Part of the *English East India Company*, and the Nabob *Maharuk ul Dowlah*.

On the Part of the Company.

We, the Governor and Council, do engage to secure to the Nabob *Maharuk ul Dowlah*, the Soubahdarree of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and to support him therein, with the Company's Forces, against all his Enemies.

On the Part of the Nabob.

I.

The Treaty which my Father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his first Accession to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the Honour and Reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my Brothers, the Nabobs *Nazim ul Dowlah*, and *Syef ul Dowlah*, the same Treaties, as far as is consistent with the true Spirit, Intent, and Meaning, thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciously pleased to grant unto the *English East India Company*, the Dewannaship of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, as a free Gift for ever; and I, having an entire Confidence in them, and in their Servants settled in this Country, that Nothing whatever be proposed or carried into Execution by them, derogating from my Honour, Interest, and the Good of my Country, do therefore, for the better conducting the Affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my Honour and Interest, and that of the Company, in the best Manner,

Agree, That the protecting the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and the Force sufficient for that Purpose, be entirely left to their Direction and good Management, in Consideration of their paying the King, *Show Alim*, by Monthly Payments, as by Treaty agreed on, the Sum of Rupees Two Lacks Sixteen thousand Six hundred and Sixty-six, Ten Annas, and Nine Pice (Rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9) and to me, *Meharuk ul Dowlah*, the annual Stipend of Rupees Thirty-one Lacks Eighty-one thousand Nine hundred and Ninety-one, Nine Annas (31,81,991. 9); viz. the Sum of Rupees Fifteen Lacks, Eighty-one thousand Nine hundred and Ninety-one, Nine Annas (15,81,991. 9) for my House, Servants, and other Expences indispensably necessary; and the remaining Sum of Rupees Sixteen Lack (Rupees 16,00000) for the Support of such *Sepoys, Peons, and Bargundasses*, as may be thought proper for my Afwarry only; but on no Account ever to exceed that Amount.

III.

The Nabob *Minaub Dowla*, who was, at the Instance of the Governor and Gentlemen of the Council, ap-

pointed Naib of the Provinces, and invested with the Management of Affairs, in Conjunction with *Maha Rajah Dholubram* and *Juggut Seai*, shall continue in the same Post, and with the same Authority: And having a perfect Confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the Disbursing of the above Sum of Rupees Sixteen Lacks, for the Purposes abovementioned.

This Agreement, by the Blessing of God, shall be inviolably observed for ever.

Dated the 21st Day of *March*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy.

Signed —

*Richard Becker,  
Wm Aldersey,  
John Cartier,  
Claud Russell,  
Charles Floyer,  
John Reed,  
Francis Hart,  
Joseph Jekyll,  
Thomas Lane,  
Richard Barwell.*

A true Copy.

*W. Wymie, Secretary.*

Copy of the Translate of a *Perwannah* from *Sija Dowla Cawn*, Subah of *Bengal*, to Governor *Diane*, as entered after the *Fort William* Consultation of the 19th *January* 1731-2.

*John Deane*, Governor: I salute you, and am very well pleased and satisfied with your fair Dealing and Management, and have not any ill Will whatsoever against you; you ought to preserve a good Understanding with me, and by a good Management of yours, go on with your Business as customary, without doing any Thing contrary to Law and Custom.

Copy of a *Perwannah*, under the Seal of the Nabob *Sija Cawn*, to *Mhammad Aliff*, entered after the *Fort William* Consultation of the 16th *July*, 1736.

Whereas the Revenues of the Towns of *de Calcutta, Soota Lotee*, and *Govindpoor*, in the Purgannas of *Ameembad, Calcutta*, and *Poycarone*, in the Surcar of *Sutgom*, by Grants from the Court, and several Governors of the Province, have been appropriated to the *English Company*, and been under the Direction of their Agents, I do now confirm the same to them, according to Custom; and you are not to molest them, or demand more upon any Account than is usual, nor insist upon their renewing this Grant yearly; but encourage the Improvement of the Towns in the Manner, therefore, to their Satisfaction. See that this be obeyed. On the 1st of the Month of *Rubbenlaurell*, 18th Year of the King's Reign.

A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup> 3.

A Letter to *George Pigot* Esquire, President, &c. of *Fort St. George*, relating to the Capture of *Calcutta*; dated 16 July 1756, from the Governor and Council of *Bengal*.

To the honourable *George Pigot*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council at *Fort St. George*.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

OUR utmost Efforts have been employed to dispatch to you sooner the Intelligence of the Capture of *Calcutta* by the *Moors*, acting under Orders of *Serajab Dowla*, the new Nabob; which Account, we doubt not, will have reached you before this can possibly arrive, by Means of *Patamars* from the *Sbroffs* or foreign Nations; a true Narrative of this unhappy Event, will, in our Opinion, be faithfully represented to you by *Mr. Manningbam*, which we have not here to commit to Writing; the above Gentleman we depute to your Honour, &c. on the United *English East India Company's* Behalf, and require from this Representation, that you will support us with the whole Force you can obtain on your Coast, Military and Marine, together with a sufficient Quantity of Ammunition, Cannon, and all other warlike Stores, Military and Marine, which may enable us to re-establish ourselves in this Province, which we esteem of the most essential Consequence to the *East India Company*, and Trade of *India* in general.

It is highly to represent to your Honour, &c. and that the *English* here were established by Patent from the Grand Mogul, under whose Orders all Subahs should be dependant; but as your Honour, &c. are well acquainted that this Province was overcome by *Ally Verde Cawn*, who maintained his Conquest by Force of Arms, so was it possessed by his Grandson, who assumed the Title of *Serajab Dowla*; wherefore further to favour our Cause, and just Complaints for Restitution, and Right to the Privilege granted us by the Royal Firmamund, we are to request you will, without Delay, let forth to the Grand Mogul the Enormities committed by the present Nabob, on a Nation which has always paid Obedience to the Tenor of the Firmamund, nor infringing on its Privileges; requiring and entreating by his Authority to re-establish us in all our Rights, and that the Loss sustained by the Company and Inhabitants of the Settlement may be made good.

We are at present endeavouring to open a Correspondence with the principal Men, whom we are informed the Nabob attends to, in Hopes to bring on a Treaty till we can obtain Succour, and that we may in some Measure be relieved from our present Distress, being in the utmost Want of all Necessaries of Life, and strict Orders issued by the Government not to supply us with any Provisions: The *Dutch* and *French* are also prohibited giving us any Assistance; their Situation appears very precarious; and we are told the *French* have wrote to a large Reinforcement from *Pondicherry*.

Our Determination is to keep the River, until we are informed of your Honour, &c.'s Resolutions; and in case we are not able to procure any Favour from this Government, or should be persecuted so by the Enemy as to be obliged to stand out to Sea, we shall proceed to *Vizagapatam*, this we think proper to mention, as it may be necessary that the Ships in their Way to the Bay call there for Intelligence, which we shall lodge there, if we are able to procure any Conveyances; for

the Ingratitude of our immediate Servants has been such, that we are drove to the Necessity of doing every individual Office for ourselves; nor have we been able to procure a *Pattaman*, or a *Persian* Writer; and it is with the utmost Difficulty we have hitherto kept together a sufficient Number of *Lascars* to work our Ships, and are daily apprehensive they will quit us on the first Occasion.

We have desired the Gentlemen at *Vizagapatam* to provide and hold in Readiness what Provision of every Kind they are able to procure, to be put on Board the Vessels coming down hither.

We request your Honour, &c. to represent a full State of all these Occurrences to Admiral *Watson*, the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Squadron, and entreat his Aid and Assistance with the Fleet, which we hope may be able to proceed hither.

Monfr. *Le Beaune* (who had the Command of our advanced Batteries, and defended the same very gallantly) accompanies *Mr. Manningbam*, and will, in case of Accident happening to *Mr. Manningbam*, deliver you these Advices; we esteem Monfr. *Le Beaune* well qualified to give you a circumstantial Detail of our Military Proceedings, as also inform you of the various Stores we are in Want of.

As we imagine the News of this Capture will produce very bad Consequences in *England*, to the honourable Company's Affairs, if they receive it without being informed at the same Time of there being a Prospect of our re-settling in *Bengal*; we are to request your Honour will alter your Resolution of sending the *Delaware* to *Europe*, till you hear the Success of the Force you may be able to assist us with.

We are, with great Respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

*Fulta*,  
16 July 1756. Your most obedient humble Servants,  
R. D.  
&c.

General Letter dated 15th September 1756.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*.

May it please your Honours,

As it is probable a Vessel may be dispatched to *Europe*, by the President and Council of *Fort St. George*, or some other Nation settled on the Coast, and a Conveyance offering from hence to *Vizagapatam*, we think it our Duty to give your Honours some Account of an Event which must be of the utmost Consequence to your Trade.—It is with the greatest Concern we find ourselves under the Necessity of transmitting your Honours such disagreeable News; and shall beg Leave to confine ourselves to Generals for the present, referring to a future Address for the Particulars of this Affair.

Upon the Receipt of your Packet by the *Delaware*, we thought it necessary to put ourselves in the best State of Defence we could, and for that Purpose gave Directions to have the Line of Guns towards the River repaired and strengthened: While we were carrying on this Work, a *Perwannah* arrived from the Nabob *Serajab Dowla* (who had succeeded to the Government upon the Death of *Allyver Cawn*) forbidding us to erect any new Works, or dig a Ditch, which he was informed we were doing. As we esteemed this a very unrea-

unreasonable Prohibition, the President made the following Reply, by the Approbation and Consent of the Board; That we were not erecting any new Fortifications, but only repairing our Wharf; which had been much damaged by the French; and he had been misinformed in regard to the Ditch, having dug none since the Invasion of the *Marattoes*, which had been executed by the Request of our Inhabitants, and with the Approbation of *Amyer de Cawn* himself.—That we had received Advice of there being a Likelihood of a Rupture between the *French* and us, and as they disregarded the Neutrality of the Mogul's Dominions in the last War, by attacking *Madrafs*, we were under some Apprehensions of their making some Attempt upon our Settlement, should there be a Declaration of War between the Two Nations, for which Reason we thought it necessary to be upon our Guard, and make our Place as defensible as we could.

The Nabob was at that Time encamped at *Rajamaul*; and the Gentlemen at *Cossimbuzar*, a few Days after, informed us, that he was much incensed at the foregoing Reply, and had ordered their Factory to be invested with a Party of Horsemen. This was confirmed in a second Letter from them, with Advice that a large Body of Troops were actually placed upon them, and that more were daily expected; for which Reason they desired a Reinforcement of Military and a Supply of Stores. Another Letter from those Gentlemen advised us that Troops were daily stationed on them; that the Nabob himself was returning from *Rajamaul*; that a Train of Artillery was ordered to be planted against them; and that he threatened to attack as soon as he arrived.—In this Letter they requested us to complain against *Hukumbeg* and his Duan, for their Extortions of late Years, as they looked upon them to be the Instigators of these Disturbances.

Upon Receipt of this Letter, we transmitted them a Blank Ardas, for them to insert the Complaint against *Hukumbeg* and his Duan, as they who were on the Spot must be the best Judges what to write; and directed them to remonstrate, in that Ardas, the Injury done us in surrounding our Factory upon so frivolous and unjust a Pretence; the Falsity of which he might be satisfied of by sending a Person to examine and report the Works we were carrying on.—We likewise ordered them to endeavour all in their Power to accommodate the Matter, but on no Account to mention the Demolition of any Works: That in the present Situation of Affairs we thought it more advisable to sooth the Nabob than to provoke him, which sending up a Reinforcement might occasion; and therefore we thought it best to defer the Supply they had requested; and directed them, that in Case the Nabob carried Matters to Extremity, and attacked their Factory, to make the best Defence they could till the Waters rose, and then to retreat, with their Garrison, to *Calcutta*.

Two other Letters arrived from Mr. *Watts* and his Council, with Intelligence of a further Number of Troops having surrounded their Factory, and that the Nabob was daily expected at *Muxadavad*, when it was imagined they would actually be attacked. In the former of these Letters they informed us, that one of the principal Zemmadars placed upon them, told their Doctor, the Nabob was angry with the *English* on no other Account than a Draw Bridge we had built at *Perrin's* and an Octagon at Mr. *Kellall's* Garden, and that if we would destroy those Works, the Forces would be immediately taken off their Factory: In Consequence of which Information they gave it as their Opinion, if the President would address the Nabob, and promise to demolish the Draw Bridge and Octagon, the Affair would be accommodated.

This Letter was taken into Consideration by the Board, and, for many strong Reasons, it was judged more advisable to promise the Demolition of those Works, than hazard a Rupture with the Nabob, at a Juncture

when we were so little prepared for it.—Accordingly an Ardas was wrote to that Effect, and Triplicates of it forwarded to the Chief and Council at *Cossimbuzar*, for them to get delivered. These Letters, Messrs. *Watts* and *Collet* acquaint us, were not received while the Factory remained in our Hands.

On the 7th of June we received the disagreeable News of *Cossimbuzar* Factory being delivered up to the Nabob, who had made Mr. *Watts* a Prisoner upon his going to visit him, and forced him to sign a Mutchulka to the following Purport: That we should give no Protection to the King's Subjects; that we should destroy any new Fortifications we had raised, and fill up the new Ditch; and that if it could be proved we had granted Dufficks to any Persons that were not entitled to them, the Loss sustained by the Government, in the Customs, should be made good by the Company. These Letters likewise informed us, the Nabob intended to march to *Calcutta* with his whole Army, which now amounted to 50,000 Men, besides a very large Train of Artillery.

Upon the Receipt of this Intelligence we thought it expedient to put our Town (which was extremely open towards the Land) in the best Posture of Defence we could, by throwing up such Outworks as the Shortness of our Time would admit of, conformable to Plans laid before us for that Purpose, which was accordingly executed. The Militia were likewise summoned and trained, and every Thing in our Power prepared to sustain our Attack, in case the Nabob should be rash enough to carry Matters to that Extremity.

The 16th of June the Van of his Army appeared before the Redoubt at *Perrin's*, and about One in the Afternoon attempted to force a Passage that Way into the Town, but were bravely repulsed by the Party stationed there, Numbers of them being killed; which made them decamp in the Night from thence, and enter the Town from the Eastward; at which Quarter it was not in our Power to prevent their getting in.—On the Morning of the 18th they began the Attack of our Lines, and after a very warm Fire the whole Day from one of our Batteries, were obliged to retreat, which made it necessary to recall the rest, that they might not be cut off by the Enemy in the Rear.

The next Morning they commenced a brisk Fire upon the Fort, which they continued the whole Day, and great Part of Sunday the 20th; and having gained Possession of the several Houses near the Factory and Church, they destroyed a great many Officers and private Men; who being harried out with continual Duty, and the Enemy overpowering us with their Numbers, the Walls were scaled on the Evening of the 20th, and the Fort surrendered upon Promise of their civil Treatment of the Prisoners.

We have now given your Honours a summary Relation of the Nabob's Proceedings at *Cossimbuzar*, his March against *Calcutta*, the Attack and Capture of that Place.

There being some Country Vessels in the River, such of the Inhabitants as could escape have been confined in them, and suffered the greatest Distress; most of them having lost every thing they had, and scarce saved the Cloaths on their Backs, which has induced us to take the Liberty of maintaining them at your Honours Expense, which we flatter ourselves will not be disapproved of, when it is considered how general the Calamity has been, and what Numbers had it not in their Power to subsist themselves by any Means whatever.

Our remaining here so long has been owing to our judging it absolutely necessary to keep the River, in order to re-establish ourselves in these Provinces; for which Purpose we have applied to the President and Council of *Fort Saint George*, to assist us with all the Force they can possibly spare from the Calls of their own Coast, and have deputed *Charles Manningham*, Esquire, to satisfy them of the Necessity of exerting them-

themselves on this Occasion, for recovering your Honours Settlements, Rights, and Privileges, in these Provinces: As yet, have received no Answer from those Gentlemen, though we daily expect one; and we hope they will not refuse or delay sending us down a considerable Body of Troops, as soon as they received our Letter upon that Head, as their Arrival at this Juncture would enable us to re-establish your Honours in all the Privileges and Immunities of the Royal Firman. The Country being involved in Troubles by the Appointment of another Subah from Dilly, who is joined by some Royal Troops, and several considerable Jumadars, that have deserted *Serajab Dowla*; there is likewise an Invasion expected from the *Marrattas* as soon as the Rains take off; and by the Intelligence we have received from *Cossimbuzar*, the Nabob is greatly embarrassed.

We have likewise applied to the President and Council of *Bombay* for a Supply of Troops; and in case those Two Presidencies give us the necessary Assistance, we may hope, in a short Time, to acquaint your Honours of our being settled upon a secure and respectable Footing.

The Gentlemen of *Luckipore* and *Bulromgurry* have safely withdrawn their Factories, pursuant to our Orders, and brought away all their Military Stores, with what Cash and Effects were laying in their respective Factories; those at *Dacca* could not do the same, for Want of Conveyances; all their Boats being seized by the Nabob of that Place; but were obliged to surrender after they heard of the Loss of *Fort William*.

By the next Conveyances we shall transmit your Honours Copies of our Proceedings since the Loss of *Calcutta*, with the Cash Account, and what other Papers are material: And are with the greatest Respect,

May it please your Honours,

*Fort William*,  
the 15th September 1757. Your faithful and most obedient humble Servants,

*Roger Drake, Junior,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> Watts,*  
*James Kilpatrick,*  
*Rich<sup>d</sup> Becker,*  
*Paul Richard Pearkes,*  
*W. Frankland,*  
*M. Collet,*  
*J. Z. Howell,*  
*W. Mackett,*  
*P. Amyatt.*

Letter from Messrs. *Becker, Scrafson, Hyndman,* and *Waller*, at the French Factory at *Dacca*.

To the honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*.

May it please your Honours,

1. The present melancholy Situation of your Affairs in *Bengal* will appear a very sufficient Apology for our not addressing you in the usual Form of your Council; some are killed, some Prisoners, and those who remain, retired with Mr. *Drake* we know not well whither. You have been doubtless long since informed of *Ali Verdi Khan's* having named *Seir Rajab Dowlat* his Successor to this Province, in prejudice of his Nephews, *Newages Mahmud Khan* and *Sabid Iamud Khan*; the former of which had his Residence at *Muxadavad*, the latter in the *Proonean* Country, of which he was Nabob. The Succession of *Seir Rajab Dowlat*, notwithstanding this Preference, was greatly doubted; his Competitors were rich and powerful, both Men of much more Experience in Life; the one esteemed of Abilities, greatly superior; Fortune however had adopted him, and took Care to pave his Way to that Point of Grandeur to which he is now arrived. In *December* last died *Newages Mahmud Khan*, a few Months after the

Nabob of *Proonea*, and on the 9th of *April Ali Verdi Khan* breathed his last. The Widow of *Newages* for some Time maintained a faint Shew of Opposition to the Succession of *Seir Rajab Dowlat*, in Favour of a Boy, named *Maradel Dowlat*, Nephew to *Seir Rajab Dowlat*, and who had been adopted by her late Husband. But deserted by her Adherents, she was necessitated to drop it, and to claim the Protection of *Seir Rajab Dowlat*, at this Time firmly established. *Kissendai*, Son to *Rajabullah*, who had long acted as Prime Minister to *Newages Mahmud Khan*, is said to have retired to *Calcutta*, in *March* last, with immense Riches of his Father's, and of the Widow of his late Master.—The Protection granted to this Man, and the Refusal of delivering him up when demanded, is universally believed to be the Cause of all our Misfortunes. Umbrage taken at some new Works of Fortification, which were carrying on at *Calcutta*; and artful Insinuations to the Nabob, that the *English* were putting themselves in a State to make War upon him, may be the Pretences.—On the 23d of *May* the Factory at *Cossimbuzar* was invested by a Body of about 500 Men; from that Time till the 3d of *June*, fresh Forces were daily arriving, when the Number is said to have consisted of 50,000. That Day the Nabob *Seir Rajab Dowlat* likewise arrived, with a large Body of Horse, the Rest of his Army; the Day following he is said to have dispatched a Messenger to Mr. *Watts*, to signify his Desire of a Conference with him: This was complied with: Mr. *Watts* was no sooner in his Presence than he was made Prisoner, and the Messenger returned to the Factory, for Messrs. *Collet* and *Batson*, the only Two Gentlemen in Council at that Time at *Cossimbuzar*: He told them their Presence was necessary to undersign a Paper, to which Mr. *Watts* had set his Name, and which, without theirs, would not be valid. These Two Gentlemen likewise waited on the Nabob; the latter was immediately made Prisoner, and the former sent back to the Factory, with Orders to the Officer who commanded, to deliver it up to whoever the Nabob should appoint to take Possession of it, with Guns, Ammunition, &c. His Orders were conform'd to, and the Nabob took Possession of it the 6th. This done, Orders were issued for the March of the Army towards *Calcutta*. For the Particulars of the Siege of that Place, and *Fort William*, we must beg Leave to refer your Honours to some of those Gentlemen who continued in the Fort till it was taken. The Accounts we have very much, and are difficult to reconcile; all agree in this, that many brave Men have died miserably, whose Lives might have been saved by the smallest Degree of good Conduct and Resolution in their Leaders.—That Mr. *Drake* refused listening to any Terms of Accommodation, said to have been proposed by the Nabob, while at *Hughley*, to avert the Storm which threatened the Colony, is what we can hardly credit, though this is confidently affirmed. In a Garrison so ill provided as it appears *Fort William* was, it would certainly have been eligible to have submitted to any for the present, and to have waved his Resentment till a Change of Circumstances might enable him to gratify it, and to obtain such as were more advantageous. The Nabob in his Return from *Calcutta*, after marching a Number of his Men through *Chandernagore*, and committing many Irregularities, extorted from the French the Sum of Three Lacks of Rupees, and from the Dutch 430,000, and from the *Danes* 50,000. The French have behaved with the greatest Humanity to such as have taken Refuge at their Factory; and the Tenor of their Conduct every where to us, on this melancholy Occasion, has been such as to merit the grateful Acknowledgement of our Nation. The Sloop which, in our Correspondence with *Monf. Courtin*, your Honours will observe we became answerable for, to prevent the ill Consequences of Mr. *Amyatt's* seizing her at so critical a Juncture,

is, with her Cargo, we are informed, safely arrived at *Chanderagore*.

1. It was on the 23d of *May*, as in a preceding Paragraph we have acquainted your Honours, that *Cossimbuzar* Factory was first invested. It was the 9th of *June* before we had any Letter from the Gentlemen in *Calcutta*; it was dated the 3d, and in general Terms directed us to be upon our Guard, as the Nabob had taken Offence at some Works which were carrying on at *Calcutta*, and it was uncertain to what Lengths his Caprices and Passion might lead him: Our Situation, and the Want of Embarkations, rendered a Compliance with their Orders of the 7th (received the 12th) utterly impracticable: For our Reasons fully deduced, we beg Leave to refer your Honours to our Consultation of the 12th, in those, and our public Letters, both which accompany this Address to your Honours, the Consultations of the 3d and 5th excepted; Two Copies of which have been sent to *Calcutta*, but the Originals we have not been able to get out of the Factory: We have been sufficiently explicit to enable you to judge and determine on our Conduct, and shall not enter into a further Detail.

2. As your Books and Papers are all in the Possession of the Nabob, we cannot, with Exactness, inform you of the Loss you have sustained at your Factory at *Dacca*. If they will permit us to extract a few Minutes from the Books, we shall shortly be able to make it up, and your Honours may depend on having it by the first Occasion.

3. As to ourselves, we have lost every Thing; a Consciousness of having to the utmost of our Abilities discharged our Duty to your Honours, and the Hopes of your future Favour, should it appear to you we have acted in such a Manner as to deserve it, must, for the present, support us. Your Honours will do us the Justice to believe, that in the Surrender of our Factory without Resistance, we have not been actuated by any unmanly Attachment to Life. Every necessary Disposition our Situation would admit of had been made; and while *Fort William* stood, our Resolution was taken to defend ourselves to the last Extremity.—That gone, and all Hopes of Assistance cut off, it is certain we might have died, or by exasperating an ungenerous Enemy, exposed ourselves to Ignominy and Torment, but this would in no Shape have availed your Honours.

4. The French Gentlemen at *Chanderagore* and *Cossimbuzar* are warmly soliciting our Liberty; if we are so happy as to obtain it, we propose going to *Madras* in the first Ship, where we shall be ready to serve your Honours in any suitable Employment that your President and Council there may point out to us, till your Pleasure is known.

5. Exclusive of the Gentlemen whose Names appear at the Foot of this Letter, there are Prisoners with us here, Mr. *John Carter*, a Factor of One Year's standing; Mr. *John Johnson* just commencing, Assistants Lieut. *John Cadmore*, and Mr. *Nathaniel Wilson*, Surgeon; Mr. *William Sumner*, the Second at this Factory, absent at *Calcutta*, by Permission, and who we hear is safe, having been ordered on board Ship some Days before the Place was taken.

We advised the Gentlemen at *Madras* of this unhappy Event, as soon as we could collect any Particulars which we thought carried an Appearance of Truth.

We are, with great Respect,

May it please your Honours,

Your Honours faithful

humble Servants,

*Richd Becher,*

*Luke Scrafton,*

*Thom. Hyndman,*

*Samuel Waller.*

From the French Factory at }  
*Dacca, July 18th, 1756. }*

Extract of a Letter from Messrs. *Watts and Collet*, to the honourable the Court of Directors.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of *England*, trading to the *East Indies*.

May it please your Honours,

It is with the utmost Concern we now inform you, that *Fort William* was taken the 20th of *June* by the Nabob of *Bengal*, Grandson of *Alivarditown*, who died last *April*. The first Rise of these Troubles are as follows:

Some Time after his coming to the Government, he sent one *Narran Sing*, Brother to *Rogaram*, who is Nabob at *Cuttack*, and Commander of the *Spy*s (which in this Country is a considerable Post) to *Calcutta*, where he arrived privately, and in Disguise, with a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor; which the Governor did not think proper to receive, as it was presented in such a Way, but turned *Narran Sing* with Disgrace out of the Place. The Chief of *Cossimbuzar*, being apprehensive that this might occasion some Trouble, wrote to the *Darbar* Officers, to prevent any Complaint being made to the Nabob, and the Affair was icingly hushed up; but a few Days were elapsed, when he sent for our Vacquell, and told him he heard they were making Fortifications, and digging a Ditch round *Calcutta*; and insisted that we should level our new Works, and fill up the Ditch. Upon the Vacquell's returning from the *Darbar*, and acquainting the Chief with what the Nabob said, he wrote to him, that he had not heard of any new Fortifications being raised, or Ditch dug; and that we were apprehensive that our Enemies, for their own lucrative Advantages, had raised these Reports; to this Letter he returned no Answer, but sent a *Purwannah* to *Calcutta*, ordering them to desist from fortifying, and to level what new Works they had begun. He then marched to the Northward, and gave out he was going to *Patna*. On his Arrival at *Rajamahal*, he received the Governor's Answer, at which he was greatly incensed, and immediately ordered a Party of Horse and Gun Men upon our Factory, and returned back himself with the greatest Expedition with his whole Army, which encamped round our Factory, and, according to the most moderate Computation, consisted of 10,000 Horse, and 20,000 Rajepouts, and other Gun Men, with a large Train of Artillery; and then demanded the Chief to come out, and see him; the Nabob's Duan, who commanded the Van of the Army, writing the Chief a Letter, that he might come out with great Safety, that no Harm should happen, and that he would introduce him to the Nabob: Upon this we thought proper to send the Surgeon of the Factory to the Duan; and he gave him the same Assurances, and sent him back with a considerable Person, and a Present of Beetle (which is esteemed a Pledge of Faith) to accompany the Chief to the Duan, who was to introduce him to the Nabob; accordingly, agreeable to the unanimous Opinion of the Gentlemen of the Factory, and Officer of the Garrison, the Chief went, and was presented by the Duan to the Nabob; who immediately ordered him into Confinement, and insisted on his giving an Obligation, that in 15 Days Time the Gentlemen of *Calcutta* should level what new Works they had raised, deliver up the Nabob's Tenants, who had fled for Protection there; and that if it should be proved we had falsified the Company's Dutlucks, by giving them to those that had no Right to them, we should pay back what the Government had suffered by Loss of Duties: The Chief, being in their Hands, was obliged to sign this. They then told him, that his signing was of no Consequence, without the rest of the Council; accordingly, upon the Surgeon's returning

to the Factory, with a Eunuch of the Nabob's, and Two or Three others, who acquainted Messrs. *Collet* and *Baylon*, that it was necessary they should go to the Chief and make an End of the Affair; they went, and were detained Prisoners, nothing more being said about the Obligation the Chief had signed. The next Day we were ordered to deliver up our Ammunition and Cannon, which, upon mature Deliberation, we thought proper to comply with, in Hopes to entirely pacify the Nabob, and prevent his March to *Calcutta*. The Army then drew off from the Factory.

Extract of Mr. *Drake's* Letter to the Council at Fort William, dated *Calcutta*, 17th to 25th January 1757.

Par. 4. Referring to Mr. *Becher's* Letter, under Date of the 26th November last, that Gentleman condemns my Conduct, in that I granted Protection, or admitted into *Calcutta*, *Kissendas*; that I refused to receive the Nabob's Purwannah, and insulted the Messenger; the assuaging to myself such an Authority to act without the Advice, or acquainting my Council thereof; my not using proper Means to accommodate Matters, when I found the Nabob irritated; and not securing on board the Ships the Company's Books, Papers, and Treasure; and finally abandoning the Fort in the Manner I did: To all which Accusations I reply, That the Admission of *Kissendas* into *Calcutta* was permitted by Mr. *Manningham*, in my Absence on a Visit to *Ballafore*, where I went, after the Dispatch of our last Europe Ship that Season, the 9th of March, and returned the 21st of said Month. *Kissendas* I think arrived there the 16th; and he, or some of his People, introduced a Letter from Mr. *Watts* to Mr. *Manningham*, with one inclosed for myself, under a flying Seal, to the following Purport, as far as my Remembrance leads me: That an Application had been made to him by *Rajab Bullub* (who is Father to *Kissendas*) requesting we would admit his (*Rajab Bullub's*) Family into *Calcutta* for the Space of Two Months, until one of the Women was brought to Bed, and able to proceed on her Journey to *Jaggernot Pagod*; and strenuously recommended we would not refuse that Request, as *Rajab Bullub* was likely to hold great Posts in the Government, and might, from such Favour shewn his Family, be instrumental of giving an uninterrupted Currency to our Business at *Dacca*, and its Dependencies; which Recommendation from Mr. *Watts*, who then was so nearly situated to the *Durbar* of *Muxadavad*, drew a Grant from Mr. *Manningham*, to admit *Kissendas*, his Family, and Attendants, into our Bounds. I think Messrs. *Frankland* and *Holwell* are able to testify that such a Letter was penned by Mr. *Watts*, nor would I be understood to throw any Blame on Mr. *Manningham*, for having had Regard thereto; had I been present on *Kissendas*'s Arrival, I should certainly adhered to so strong a recommendatory Letter from our Chief at *Cosimbuzar*; nor was any Disturbance surmised would happen on Account of that Family's Residence here, or on any other Account, until about the 15th of April, when a Perwannah arrived, said to contain an immediate Demand, from the Nabob, of *Rajab Bullub's* Family and Wealth; which leads me to answer Mr. *Becher's* Second Accusation, That I refused to receive the said Perwannah, and insulted the Messenger. That the Perwannah was refused to be received, by Messrs. *Manningham*, *Holwell*, and myself, is a Fact; and the Messenger was ordered out of the Bounds. Our then Reasons, that induced us to act, were, that this Messenger, or rather Spy, came into our Bounds in Disguise, and his first Foot on Shore was at *Omicbund's* House, who received him privately, and a Perwannah for himself, tending, as we learnt, to this Purport, that he, *Omicbund*, was to interest himself to obtain the immediate Delivery of *Rajab Bullub's* Sons and Family

to *Narrandasi*, Brother to *Rejman*, the Nabob's Head Spy: This first arbitrary and unusual Proceeding of the new Nabob, before his having advised our Prudence; (as has ever been customary on Change of Government) of his Succession to the Government, caused a Suspicion, that the said Perwannah had been wrote without his Consent or Knowledge; and not at that Time having had any Intelligence from Mr. *Watts*, that such a Person had been dispatched by the Nabob, joined with the Fear *Omicbund* shewed on the Occasion, determined us to reject the Perwannah (which Mr. *Manningham* or myself never had a Sight of) and to order *Narrandasi* instantly out of our Bounds; and if that Gentleman and Mr. *Holwell* will recollect, I think they must acknowledge I then produced Mr. *Watts* his original Letter, recommending, in most strenuous Terms, the Reception of that Family into our Settlement, with Two or Three others; certifying how useful the retaining *Rajab Bullub* in our Interest would be, who was likely to hold great Posts in the Government; at the same Instant I was required by those Gentlemen to acquaint Mr. *Watts* of the clandestine Manner whereby *Narrandasi* stole into our Bounds; of our Refusal to receive the Perwannah, and his being ordered to quit our Settlements: To which Mr. *Watts* replied, That our Vaqueel had represented to the chief *Durbar* Officers the Whole that had happened; and that the Reply thereto was, That we surely had a Right to dismiss such People out of our Bounds. It is with Regret I mention not having Mr. *Watts* his Letters to produce; but I appeal to Mr. *Manningham*, *Frankland*, and *Holwell*, to whom I communicated, at different Times, the Purport of those Letters, whether Circumstances to be gathered therefrom were not implying, that *Rajab Bullub* would be taken into Favour again; and advising, rather shewing Civility to his Family than any way to distress them; giving his Opinion, that we should be cautious, and not let them leave *Calcutta*: One Letter did imply to give them Warning to depart, as the Space of Time, his Father had applied for their Residence here, was nigh elapsed; that was soon contradicted; and I call on Mr. *Watts* to declare, whether I did not frequently express, I was apprehensive that Family's Residence here would bring the Company's Affairs into Trouble; and whether I ever shewed any Disinclination to their quitting the Bounds, or submitting to the Delivery of them, had the Nabob openly required it. Further, Mr. *Watts* wrote me, he had acquainted the principal Men at *Muxadavad*, that I should have no Objections to deliver *Kissendas*; but that he thought I should not consent to the giving up of his Women, nor would that be insisted on. To the Blame Mr. *Becher* is pleased to cast on me, for assuaging to myself the sole Authority of acting without the Consent or Advice of my Council, in the Protection granted *Kissendas*, and the Dismissal of the Messenger who brought the Perwannah for the immediate Delivery of him and his Family, I must beg Leave to refer, in Part thereof, to my Reply to his foregoing Accusation against my Conduct; wherein it will appear, beyond Contradiction, that I assumed no Power of acting by arbitrary Will: I could wish the Perwannah had not been refused, but in public Council, which sat that very Morning; and the Gentlemen were assembled in the Consultation Room before Messrs. *Manningham* and *Holwell* quitted my Apartment, and were all well acquainted with the Steps we had taken; but not one Member of the Board opened his Mouth to speak thereon, which was their Duty to do, had they then imagined evil Consequences would be the Attendant on that Proceeding; which leads me to remark, that no Gentleman of Council can excuse himself for that Silence; as I think I shall be supported in declaring, I never attempted to bridle their Tongues. I further am led to think, that Mr. *Becher*, who was in *Calcutta* from the latter End of February to the Beginning of April, though not obliged to attend our Councils, when his

Absence



Absence from his Chiefship at *Dana*, on Account of his own Concerns, was permitted, might then have set forth his Apprehensions that such our Proceedings were wrong, which any slight Intimation of to, or at, the Board, would have saved me many an unhappy Reflection on what my Character has since suffered from after-thinking Men: What availed it me, or either Messrs. *Manningham* or *Hakwell*, whether *Rajah Bullub's* Family was, or was not, to be admitted and kept in our Town, but to hold in good Correspondence and Harmony, People who then had great Influence at the Durbar, thereby to promote the Interest of our Employers, and to act according to the Chief of *Cossimbuzar*, his Recommendation, who has always been supposed a competent Judge how to hold the great Men in Favour at the Durbar? Even had any Letter, private or general, from *Cossimbuzar*, intimated so far as even an Apprehension, that the protecting *Kisendas* would be likely to draw on the Nabob's Anger, I dare aver either of those two Gentlemen would have communicated the same in public Council; I answer I should for myself, and I assure Liberty of Speech and Writing has too much prevailed in this Settlement, not to admit it from any Person who then thought the Company's Interest was injured. I should fall into the same Error with after Conjectures,

if I ask why the Gentlemen of *Cossimbuzar* did not; at any Time, inform us it was a wrong Proceeding to continue *Rajah Bullub's* Family with us: If they thought so, it was their Duty to have set forth the Nabob was irritated thereat, and at the Dismissal of the Spy; but far otherwise, no Mention was ever made to us from that Factory of any Umbrage the Nabob took on that Account; not even the Name of any of *Rajah Bullub's* Family appeared in their general Letters. The next Accusation Mr. *Becher* is pleased to allege against me, though I think it may be deemed rather a general Blame on the whole Board, is, that I did not use proper Means to accommodate Matters, when I found the Nabob irritated. I would ask Mr. *Becher*, if he has hitherto made an Enquiry, or from his certain Knowledge can give the Board Intelligence, what Methods were pursued to hinder the Nabob's Approach, and to specify his un-governable Passion and premeditated Resolution to extirpate the *English* from his Dominions? I shall not therefore immediately enter here a Detail of those Measures, but think they promised to be the most effectual Means those Members present could take; and, I do conjecture, will be now so by them acknowledged, as the Appearance and Circumstances of every Matter then presented itself to us.

## A P P E N D I X. No 4.

At the East India House, Thursday, 2 December 1762.

### P R E S E N T,

All the Commissaries, *English* and *Dutch*.

**T**HE *Dutch* Commissaries acknowledging the Candour of the *English*, in sending them Copies of their Treaties with the Nabobs, observed, that a 13th Article, as transmitted by Colonel *Clive* to the Government of *Chinsarab*, and inserted in the Appendix to their Memorial, Page 12, is not to be found in either of those Treaties; the *English* Commissaries disavowed all Knowledge of that Article: With this Declaration the others seemed much satisfied, saying, that if this Article had stood confirmed, it would have been the greatest Grievance they had to complain of.

Letter from the *English* Commissaries to Lord *Clive*, relative to the 13th Article, and Lord *Clive's* Answer thereto.

At the East India House, Tuesday the 14th of December 1762.

### P R E S E N T,

All the *English* Commissaries.  
Also, Mr. *Dunning*.

A Letter was agreed upon, by the Gentlemen, to Lord *Clive*, to be signed by the Secretary, desiring his Lordship to enable them to clear up the Difficulty with the *Dutch* Commissaries, concerning the 13th Article of the Treaty with *Jaffer Aly Khan*, inserted in the 12th Page of the Appendix to the Memorial of the *Dutch* Company; the said Letter being as follows:

My Lord,

In the Course of the Conferences between the *English* and *Dutch* Commissaries, the latter have very strongly pressed the Point of the Letter and Article inclosed from

your Lordship to Mr. *Bisdan*, as mentioned in the 12th Article of the Appendix to their Memorial:—In respect of the Article, the *English* Commissaries have given the Answer your Lordship instructed them to give in your Letter to Mr. *Ross*, of the 18th of August, that is, That it was in the *Persian* Language, and had been misinterpreted; but they observe, that the Letter in which this Article was inclosed, speaks of it as a 13th Article, which had been solemnly ratified and confirmed by Oath, on one Side by the Nabob, and on the other by the *English* East India Company.—Whereas the Treaty appears to consist of 12 Articles, and therefore the *Dutch* insinuate, that whether the Article, as they have printed it, be well or ill translated from that inclosed in your Lordship's Letter, the Letter itself, which speaks of a 13th Article, must be a Misrepresentation; and in this Way the *English* Commissaries apprehend they mean to impeach the Credit of your Lordship's Attestation, on which our Defence chiefly rests.

I am ordered by the Gentlemen to communicate this to your Lordship, and to add, that as they have no Doubt but your Lordship can, they trust you will, enable them to clear up this Difficulty.

I am, with the greatest Respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient,  
and most humble Servant,  
*Robt James, Secretary.*

East India House,  
the 14th December 1762.

Right honourable Lord *Clive*.

Wednesday, the 15th December 1762.

Received the following Answer of this Date from Lord *Clive*, to the Letter sent his Lordship Yesterday, by Order of the *English* Commissaries;  
*viz.*

Sir,

I desire you will inform the Gentlemen of the Committee, that I think I cannot explain myself much more fully on the Subject than I have already done. I do  
remember

remember to have wrote such a Letter as is set forth in the 12th Page of the Appendix in the *Dutch Memorial*; but as I am without a Copy of that Letter, I cannot be certain the Article I sent Mr. *Bisdan* was called the 13th; if it was, it must be a Mistake in the Interpreter, because I do not understand *Perfian*, and all the Articles were wrote in that Language; but as I did incline to Mr. *Bisdan* an Article, I do verily believe, nay I am almost certain, it must be the Second Article, which has been falsely translated to serve a particular Purpose; and I must insist upon it, if what they call the 13th Article should prove to be, verbatim, the same as the Second Article, which can only be proved by producing the *Perfian* Article itself, it must

prove, that there never existed a 13th, because it would be absurd to repeat the same Article twice.

As to the solemn Ratification and Confirmation by Oath, &c. that might have been sent with the *Perfian* Article, to enforce it with Mr. *Bisdan*, though it be no Part of that particular Article, but belongs to, and succeeds, the Whole.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Clive.

Berkeley Square,  
15th December 1762.  
Robt James, Esquire:

## A P P E N D I X, No 5.

Letter from Mr. *Drake*, &c. dated 14th July 1757.

To the honourable the Secret Committee for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. WE have given you a full Account of the State of these Provinces, and our Transactions, to the 26th March; Triplicate of which Advices were forwarded by His Majesty's Sloop of War, the *King's Fish*.

2. This Letter is purposely to acquaint you of a happy Revolution in the Government of this Kingdom, in Favour of *Jaffier Ally Khan*, of the Part we took in this Affair, and our Motives for it; and of the Advantages obtained, by espousing the present Subah's Cause, and placing the Sway in his Hands.

3. On the First of May Colonel *Clive* laid before us Two Letters he had received from Mr. *Watts*, dated the 26th and 28th April, in which, after some Observations on the Strangeness of the Nabob's Behaviour, and that all Degrees of People were persuaded he would break with us upon the first favourable Opportunity, he proceeds to inform the Colonel, that *Jaffier Ally Khan* had sent for *Caja Petrose*, and given him to understand, that most of the Nabob's principal Officers were tired of his Government, and ready to desert him and set up another, if he would countenance and support the Confederacy with the Assistance of our Troops: That if we approved of this Scheme, he desired our Demands of what Monies, Lands, &c. would induce us to engage in the Business.—In the last of the abovementioned Letters Mr. *Watts* repeats his Apprehensions of the Nabob's Design to break the Treaty he made with us, urges a speedy Answer might be sent to *Jaffier Ally Khan's* Proposal, and gives it as his Opinion, the Project was feasible, and might be executed without much Difficulty.

4. As a Proposition of this Importance required our most serious Consideration, we accordingly debated maturely the Consequences of embracing this Offer, and whether it should be accepted or declined.—After a long Consultation, in which every Reason for and against the Scheme was collected, and deliberately argued on; it was the unanimous Sense of the Committee, that a Revolution in the Government, whatever Hands it fell into, would be advantageous to the *English*; that there could be no Hurt in trying to effect it, as our good Understanding with *Serajeh Dowla* was ex-

tremely precarious, and a Rupture with him universally expected as soon as the Squadron and Army left us; and that by joining *Jaffier Ally Khan*, to supplant him, we should obtain, in all Probability, very beneficial Terms for the Company, as well as live free of any Apprehensions from the Country Government. But as these general Reasons would not have justified our embarking the Company in such an Undertaking, and hazarding a Breach with *Serajeh Dowla* after concluding the Peace we did, we think it necessary to recite at large our Motives for engaging in a Confederacy to change the Government, and doubt not they will be esteemed sufficient, by our Employers, to vindicate our Proceedings.

5. First, it was evident to us, from the whole Tenor of the Nabob's Behaviour since the Peace, that we could not possibly rely on his Friendship; and that the Treaty made with him would soon be violated, when once he thought himself superior to us in Strength; his Delay in performing the Agreement, many of the Articles being at that Time as far from being completed as at first; the Evasion of giving us any Satisfaction for the Losses suffered by our Inhabitants, through *Monichund's* Means; the small Sum of Money which was pretended to be given Credit for in his Sircarry, being scarce a Tenth Part of the Loss sustained by the Europeans alone; with several other Parts of his Conduct; were so many convincing Proofs, that his Friendship was insincere; and that he could not abide by his Treaty, which the Exigency of his Situation alone inclined him to make.

6. Secondly, There was the greatest Reason to imagine he was an utter Enemy to the *English*, and privately endeavouring to bring in the *French*, with Promises of joining them against us. We were confirmed in this Opinion, from the great Aversion he shewed to our molesting the *French* at *Chandernagore*; his espousing and protecting Monsieur *Lau* and his Party, after that Place was taken; his keeping them in his Pay; and the certain Intelligence we had received from all Quarters, of his writing frequently to Monsieur *Bouffe*, sending him large Presents, and inviting him to march this Way.—This was so notorious, that it was publicly talked of and known, his Coffins passing almost daily thro' *Ballafore*; and but a few Days before, some Elephants and Serpents arrived at that Place, in their Passage to Monsieur *Bouffe's* Camp.

7. Lastly, There was great Room to think he did not mean well, by the Orders he had given to fortify *Cutwab*, and the removing of *Suffras Gawn's* Family from

from *Dacca* into *Pooranea*.—The Interruption our Boats and People met with in their Way to *Cashimbazar*, contrary to the Treaty of Peace, with many Actions of the same Nature, which put it beyond all Doubt, that this Dislike and Jealousy of our Nation was rooted; and that he would not miss any Opportunity of ruining our Affairs, and extirpating the *English* out of his Country.—It was therefore but common Prudence to prevent our own Ruin; which could not be done so effectually any other Way, than by divesting the Nabob of the Power of hurting us.

8. Another Inducement to undertake this Affair, was the universal Hatred of all Sorts and Conditions of Men to *Serajab Dowla*; the Affection of his Army alienated from him, by his ill Usage of the Officers; and a Revolution is generally wished for, that it is probable it would be attempted (and perhaps successfully) even without our Assistance; in which Case it would have availed us but little: Whereas by countenancing the Confederacy, and supporting it with our whole Force, we might make our own Terms, benefit our Employers, both by present and future Advantages, do a general Good, procure some Satisfaction to the Inhabitants of our Colony for their heavy Losses in the Capture, establish the Tranquillity of the Country, and by that Means open a greater Currency than ever to our Business; and lastly, cut off the Expectation of the *French*, and keep them totally out of these Dominions.

9. Motives so interesting, and founded upon the Prime Law of Self Preservation, determined us to embrace the Proposal made by *Jaffer Aly Khan*, provided adequate Terms were granted in Consideration of entering into a fresh War with the Nabob, whose Consequence must have proved very detrimental to our Affairs, if the Success of it had not been answerable to our Expectations. Accordingly, after some Consideration, the following Demands were esteemed equitable and reasonable to be asked; *viz.* That our Firmaund, and the Privileges acquired by the Treaty with *Serajab Dowla*, be confirmed, and punctually complied with; that Restitution be made of the Company's whole Loss, and the Loss of the *European* Inhabitants of *Calcutta*; that our Bounds be augmented; that we have Liberty to fortify *Cashimbazar*; that an offensive and defensive Alliance be made against all Enemies of both Parties, as well *Europeans* as others; and that the *French* be not permitted to settle in these Provinces; that the *Moors* do not fortify within Twenty Miles of the River Side from *Flugbley* down to *Ingellie*; and that the Revenues of a certain Tract of Land be made over and assigned to us, in Consideration of our maintaining a good Body of Troops. These Terms were accordingly transmitted to Mr. *Watts*, to get *Jaffer Aly Khan* to assent to them.

10. On the 17th *May*, Colonel *Clive* laid before us a Letter from Mr. *Watts*, with such Articles of Agreement as *Jaffer Aly Khan's* Confidant had assured him would be accepted of; and requesting, that if they were approved of by the Admiral and Committee, they might be ingrossed in Cypher, signed and sealed by them, and returned to him to get them executed by *Jaffer Aly Khan*: As those Articles were greatly more advantageous for the Company than the Terms we had demanded, there could be no Objection to them on our Part; they were accordingly approved of, and ordered to be ingrossed, with some Alterations, relating to the Satisfaction of private Sufferers. The Substance of them you will find in the Translation of the *Persian* Treaty, herewith transmitted for your Observation.

11. In order to prevent the least Suspicion of what we were doing, our Troops were ordered into Quarters, Part of them in *Calcutta*, and Part in *Chandernagore*; and the Nabob wrote to (agreeable to *Jaffer*

*Aly Khan's* Advice) to recall his Army encamped at *Plassey* and *Dandipore*.

12. Matters being advanced thus far, it was next judged proper to obtain, if possible, a personal Conference between *Jaffer Aly Khan*, and some Person of Trust and Confidence on our Part: To effect this, without alarming the Nabob's Suspensions, it was proposed for the Colonel to send the Nabob a Letter by Mr. *Sraffon's* Hands, acquainting him, that he had an Affair of Confidence to communicate, by which Means Mr. *Sraffon* might have an Opportunity of seeing *Jaffer Aly Khan*, and confer with him on the Plan of Operations for executing our Project; to assure him of our Attachment to his Interest; and to use his Endeavours to get such Security as could well be given, without discovering the Scheme.

13. On the 19th *May* the Treaty being ingrossed in the Manner Mr. *Watts* had requested, it was signed and sealed by the Admiral and the Members of the Committee.

14. From that Time till the 11th *June*, the Colonel received several Letters from Mr. *Watts*, confirming us in the Opinion we had conceived of the Nabob's writing to Monsieur *Bouffé* to march this Way, and extirpate the *English*.—These Letters likewise gave a Detail of the Progress of our Negotiation with *Jaffer Aly Khan*, who, on the 15th *ultimo*, signed, sealed, and solemnly swore, in the Presence of Mr. *Watts*, to abide by the Treaty he had made with the *English*; and to perform punctually the Agreement on his Part, as soon as he was in Possession of the Subahship.

15. *Mirza Omar Beg*, on the 11th *ultimo*, arrived at the *French* Gardens, where we assembled a Committee, and had the Treaty in *Persian*, executed by *Jaffer Aly Khan*, delivered us by the above-mentioned Person, who gave us the greatest Assurances of his Friendship and Esteem for the *English*; that there would be very little Difficulty in effecting a Change of Government; and that we might depend upon it, *Jaffer Aly Khan* would be punctual in performing every Article of his Agreement.

16. Mr. *Watts*, his Letters all urging the immediate March of our Troops towards *Muxadavad*; and the Committee for many Reasons judging it best to lose no Time, as this appeared the most favourable Conjunction we could have to succeed in our Enterprise; and as a Delay might not only produce a Discovery of our Confederacy, and consequently the Ruin of our Project, but would greatly diminish our Strength, while the Nabob would have Time to augment his Army, by calling in his Troops from all Quarters, and insulting others; it was therefore resolved to set out immediately, and on the 13th of *June* our Troops began their March.

17. On the 19th or 20th *June*, *Cutwab Town* and Fort (a strong Place) was taken by our Troops, where the Colonel remained Two or Three Days, to get some Advice or Letter from *Jaffer Aly Khan*, having received but One in his Way up.—The 26th *June* we had the Pleasure to receive a Letter from him, with the News of a complete Victory obtained over *Serajab Dowla*, in the Plains of *Plassey*; his whole Army and himself being fled, and we in Possession of his Camp, Ordnance, &c. That *Jaffer Aly Khan*, *Roydeulab*, and *Latter Cawn* had observed a Neutrality during the Engagement, and were with the Colonel at the Time of writing of his Letter.

18. On the 29th we received the agreeable News of *Jaffer Aly Khan's* being in Possession of the City and Kila of *Muxadavad*; that *Serajab Dowla* had withdrawn privately, but it was not doubted would be soon taken; and that *Mobinulil* was Prisoner at the City. In a Letter of the 30th *June*, Colonel *Cave* acquainted us of his having seized *Jaffer Aly Khan* in the *Mullnud*; and that he had received the Ho-

nages of his Jemidars and People, as Subah of the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa.

19. We now beg Leave to congratulate you, honourable Sirs, and the Company, on our Success in this important Business, and the happy Change of Government established in these Dominions so fortunately and speedily.—Our Loss has been but very trifling, not above 20 Europeans being killed, and wounded.

20. The Advantages of the Treaty made with the present Nabob, are too apparent to want any Comment, if the Terms are punctually complied with, which we have not the least Reason to doubt; but we must take the Liberty to recommend to your serious Consideration, the Preservation of the Grants and Privileges acquired by this Revolution, which can be done only by keeping up a large Body of Troops in the Country: As it is the Company's Interest to exert themselves on this Occasion, we make no Doubt you will immediately enlist, and send out, a sufficient Number of Recruits, to make a respectable Garrison in Bengal, which should consist of a Body of Two thousand Europeans at least, which Expenses we think will be overpaid by the Advantages of our Acquisitions:—We flatter ourselves, therefore, you will not, on any Account, neglect the sending such a Body of Europeans as we have mentioned to be necessary:—This we are of Opinion will be the only Method of preventing, in future, the Encroachments of the Country Government, to make our Friendship and Alliance courted, to carry on our Trade on the securest Footing, and to oppose the Re-settlement of the French in these Provinces.

21. Upon examining the Treasury, *Roydoolub* pretended there was but One Crore and 50 Lack of Rupees in Balance: This obliged Colonel Clive to go to the City himself, in order to be near the Nabob.—This Letter of the 30th *ultimo* informs us, to put an End to all Heartburnings and Jealousies between us and the Nabob, he agreed to refer the Affair to *Juggutseet's* Arbitration: That the Nabob and he accordingly went there; and after some Consideration, *Juggutseet* desired the Colonel would not insist immediately on the full Payment of the Sums stipulated in the Treaty; but that Half should be made good without Delay, in Money and Jewels; the other Half to be paid in Three Years, at Three annual and equal Payments.—These Terms the Colonel consented to, as they were better than he expected, considering the Lowness of the Nabob's Treasury; since which we learn, that One Third in Specie of the Whole was actually embarking on Boats for Calcutta.

22. But as the bad Consequences of deferring the Payment of any Part of the Money, appeared to us too evident to be allowed of, if it could be avoided, we have wrote the Colonel our Sentiments thereon, and desired the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, who are at *Muxadavad*, to use their best Endeavours to obtain immediate Payment; but if that is not to be done, to get some good Security from the Nabob to abide by his Contract; that for our Parts, we should prefer *Juggutseet's* engaging to see it punctually made good; and next to that Security, a Mortgage of such Lands contiguous to Calcutta, whose Revenues will be equal to the Sum to be received by us annually.

23. Having given you, honourable Sirs, a very particular Detail of our Transactions, since engaging in the Confederacy, to set up *Jaffer Aly Khan*, we have Reason to flatter ourselves you will approve of our Conduct through the Whole of this nice, but necessary, Step.

24. Mr. *Manningham* is gone up to *Muxadavad* to assist in hastening the Completion of the Treaty, and settling such Matters as relate to the mercantile Part of it.

25. By a Letter from Colonel Clive, dated the 30th June late at Night, we learnt that *Serajab Dowla* was taken; and by another Letter of the Fourth Instant, we are informed of his being cut off by *Jaffer Aly Khan's* Son and others.

26. Tranquillity being established by the Change, we have Advice of People's Minds more at Ease, and no Apprehensions of Trouble from the Government remaining. We have begun the Purchase of this Year's Investment, by sending Money to the different Aurungs; and hope, with the Assistance of the Goods received from *Serajab Dowla* at our Subordinates and Aurungs, to be able to send the Company a handsome Return from this Presidency.

27. As the Sum of Money to be received from the Nabob, even if *Juggutseet's* Determination is to stand good, will greatly exceed our Demands for the Investment; we propose to advertise, that all Interest Notes will be discharged upon being tendered; and that, in Case the Proprietors do not sue for Payment before the 1st Day of October next, the Interest will cease from that Day. This will ease the Company of a very heavy Burthen, and we hope will prove very agreeable News. In this Place we must beg Leave to remark, that by *Juggutseet's* Determination, the Company are to receive, for Three Years successively, the Sum of 16 Lack and Two Thirds of Rupees in Specie, which, with the Sale of your annual Imports, and the Amount of Bills of Exchange that we shall be under a Necessity of granting, will be fully sufficient, we imagine, for the respective Investments of those Three Years, without obliging the Company to run the Risk of any Bullion for the Supply of this Presidency, till that Term of Years is expired.

28. These Advices are dispatched in Triplicates to the Select Committee of Bombay, to be forwarded to Europe by them, by the quickest Conveyances, either by Shipping or by Land. We shall endeavour to send Copies to *Fort Saint George*, to be forwarded from thence to Europe; and shall dispatch the *Diligent* Schooner, about the Middle of next Month directly Home, with another Copy of this Packet; by which Means we hope the Company will get the Intelligence of what has happened in Bengal before the Ships of next Season leave England.

29. Since writing thus far, the Money from *Muxadavad* is arrived.

We are, with the greatest Respect,  
honourable Sirs,  
your most faithful

Fort William, humble Servants,  
14th July 1757. Roger Drake, Junior.  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Becher.

Proceedings 17th May 1757.

Fort William, the 17th May 1757.  
Tuesday, 17th May 1757.

At a Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, President,  
Robt Clive, Esquire,  
James Kilpatrick, Esquire,  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Becher, Esquire.

The Proceedings of the 12th Instant being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Colonel Clive lays the following Letter from Mr. *Watts* to him, before the Committee; which being read, contained as follows:

Copy of Mr. *Watts's* his Letter to Colonel Clive, dated the 14th May.

I re-

I received a Letter Two Days ago from Mr. *Scrafton*, wherein he writes *Ombund*, that you have agreed to give him 5 per Cent. on whatever Money he may receive on the new Contract.—As I by no Means think he merits such a Favour, or has acted so disinterested a Part as I once imagined, I have not mentioned the 5 per Cent. to him. The Particulars relating to him, that are come to my Knowledge, are these: When our Treaty was concluded with the Nabob, and the 20,000 Gold Mohurs agreed to be given in Consideration of the Plunder of *Calcutta*, the Nabob had agreed with *Rungeet Roy* and *Ombund*, to pay 20,000 Gold Mohurs more, which they told the Nabob was to be given among the leading Men in *Calcutta*, for assenting to the Treaty; besides which, the Nabob agreed to give 2 Lack of Rupees, half of which *Ombund* agreed *Rungeet Roy* was to have; 25,000 Rupees he was himself to have; and the other 75,000 Rupees was to be disposed of to whom *Ombund* thought proper to favour.—These Particulars I had from *Ombund* himself; and from very good Authority have been lately informed, that on the Nabob's Arrival here, *Rungeet Roy* was very pressing with him to comply with his Promise of paying the 20,000 Mohurs, and the Lack of Rupees, in Hopes of getting Possession of the Lack of Rupees, which the Nabob was not inclinable to pay.—This *Ombund* observed, and in order to gain Favour, at a proper Time he told the Nabob, that if *Rungeet Roy* was suffered to interfere in our Affairs, the Nabob would be obliged to pay the above Sums; but if he disgraced him, he would have the Money.—This Advice the Nabob followed, and *Ombund*, in Consideration of this Advice, got Purwannahs, and Orders to the several Aurungs, to have his Money, Goods, and Effects, delivered up.—To corroborate what I have been informed of, I this Day asked *Ombund*, if I should apply to the Nabob for the Money; but he advises me strenuously against it, saying, it was a secret Contract, and by no Means proper for me to mention, but he would himself think of Means to get it.—I shewed the Articles you sent up to *Ombund*, who did not approve of them, but insisted on my demanding for him 5 per Cent. on all the Nabob's Treasure, which would amount to 2 Crore of Rupees, besides a Quarter of all his Wealth; and that *Meer Jaffer* should oblige himself to take from the Zemindars no more than they paid in *Jaffer Cawn's* Time.—To secure *Roy Delub* to his Interest, he proposed giving him a Quarter Part of whatever they could dupe *Meer Jaffer* out of.—These, and many other Articles, in which his own Ambition, Cunning, and avaricious Views, were the chief Motives, he positively insisted on, and would not be prevailed upon to recede from one Article.—Perceiving his Obstinacy would only ruin our Affairs, and that we should alarm the Jealousy, and lose the good Opinion, of all People, and that the Accomplishment of his Treaty (if agreed to) would take some Years, *Meer Jaffer* likewise having expressed an utter Distrust and Disgust at his being any Ways concerned in the Treaty, and as Delays are dangerous; I therefore, with *Petrofe*, had a Meeting with *Meer Jaffer's* Confidant, who lets out To-day with the accompanying Articles, which he says, he is sure *Meer Jaffer* will comply with: If the Admiral and Committee therefore approve of them, I request you will get the Articles wrote on large thin Paper, in Cypher; the Sheet to be divided into Two Columns.—On the First Division the Agreement to be wrote in Cypher, which is to be signed by the Admirals; you, the Committee and Council, affirming in the Name of God, and our Saviour, that you will abide by this Agreement.—In the Second Division I shall write the Agreement in *English*; and on the Third it will be wrote in *Persian*.—These Two last I shall sign and seal when the Articles are agreed to.—*Meer Jaffer* desires to know your Opinion with regard to the Operations of

War.—He thinks it advisable for you to write to the Nabob, that agreeable to his Desire, and on Promise of his doing the same, you had withdrawn your Forces. That while his continued in the Field, and the Company's Business must continue stop, and that they could not think of rifing their Money to the Aurungs, while neither a Boat, nor *European*, could pass without Molestation.—You therefore request him, either to comply with his Promise of recalling his Troops to the City, or let you know his real Sentiments, that you may take proper Measures accordingly.—If the Nabob should comply, *Meer Jaffer* will acquaint you with his Sentiments how further to proceed.—If he refuses, other Measures must be pursued. I do dare solemnly before God, that what relates to *Ombund* is strictly true; and the Information of him relating to *Rungeet Roy* I had from good Authority; but I request you will, for the present, keep it an inviolable Secret; you must be sensible the critical Situation of our Affairs require it.

Articles sent by Mr. *Watts* for the Approbation of the Committee.

- 1st. That *Meer Jaffer* will confirm all the Grants made the *English* by the present Nabob.
- 2d. That he will make an Alliance with the *English* offensive and defensive, against all Enemies, either Country, or *European*.
- 3d. Wherever the *French* are in the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, to be delivered up, with all their Effects and Factories, and they never permitted again to settle in either of the said Provinces.
- 4th. On Account of the Company's Losses and Expenses, to be paid them One Crore of Rupees.
- 5th. On Account of the Losses of *Europeans*, 30 Laaks.
- 6th. On Account of *Jentoos*, 30 Laaks.
- 7th. On Account of *Armenians*, 15 Laaks.
- 8th. On Account of *Ombund*, 30 Laaks.
- 9th. Whatever Ground there is within the *Calcutta*-Ditch, belonging to the Zemindars, to be given up to the *English*, and 600 Yards without the Ditch all round.
- 10th. A Tract of Land, whose Rents in the Mogul's Books amount to 100,000 Rupees yearly, to be bought at a reasonable Rate, from the Zemindars, and the Nabob to assist us in the Purchase; we paying the annual Purchase or Revenues, as usual, to the Nabob: Whatever Profit may arise from this Zemindary to go towards paying the *English* Military.
- 11th. Whenever the Nabob wants the Assistance of our Army, the extraordinary Expenses to be paid by him.

The Committee then proceeded to the Examination of the foregoing Articles.—To the first Four, and the 9th, 10th, and 11th, they make no Objection, but rather esteem them extremely beneficial to our Employers; the 5th, 6th, and 7th, it is judged proper to alter, as we do not think the Allowances made there, will bear a just Proportion to the real Losses of the respective People:—The Committee therefore think, That the Sum for *European* Losses should be increased to 50 Laaks;—That the Sum for *Jentoo* Losses should be reduced to 20 Laaks; and the *Armenian* Losses to 7 Laaks.—These respective Sums to be divided among the *Europeans*, *Jentoos*, and *Armenians*, in such Manner as shall appear most equitable to Admirals *Walton* and *Petrofe*, and the Select Committee; or the latter alone, should the Admirals not be on the Spot at the Time; and that the Distribution they make, shall be liable to no Contest or Appeal.

The Article in Favour of *Ombund*, the Committee think, should be totally left out, as his Behaviour rather merits Disgrace and Punishment at our Hands, than such a Supplication in this Behalf.—The Committee likewise

likewise think, Two other Articles should be added; *viz.*

That the *Moors* do not fortify by the River Side, below *Houghly*.

That the Whole of this Agreement be fully complied with within One Month from his being seated as Nabob, at *Muxadavad*, or any other City, within the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Oriza*.

It was then considered, how we might deceive *Omicund*, and prevent a Discovery of the whole Project, which we run the Risk of, should we hesitate or refuse to insist on the unreasonable Gratification he expects and demands; and on the other Hand, it would be highly improper to stipulate, much more to demand with any Obstinacy, such extravagant Terms from *Meer Jaffer*, for a Person who can be of no Service in the intended Revolution; so on the other, it would be dangerous to provoke a Man of *Omicund's* Character, by seeming to take no Care at all of his Interests, and slighting his Weight and Influence, which might prompt him to make a Sacrifice of us, and ruin our Affairs entirely.

For these Reasons we think it will be necessary to form a double Treaty, both to be signed by *Meer Jaffer*, and by us; in One of which the Article in Favour of *Omicund* is to be inserted, in the other, to be left out; and *Meer Jaffer* is to be informed of that which we design to abide by, and esteem authentic, with our Reasons for taking such a Step.

A Conference with *Meer Jaffer* being necessary, on this and other Accounts, and a Difficulty arising how to obtain one, without giving Suspicion; it is proposed, That the Colonel do write the Nabob a Letter, acquainting him that Mr. *Sraffon* has an Affair of great Moment to communicate to his private Ear; and in order to gain the Nabob's Confidence, and incline him to think us sincere in our Friendship for him, it is agreed, That Mr. *Sraffon* carry *Balleray's* Letter to the President, and shew it the Nabob, on his Promise of returning it; by which Artifice, Mr. *Sraffon* may have an Opportunity, in his Way up, to confer with *Meer Jaffer* (now encamped near *Kishnagar*) on the following Subjects; *viz.*

To settle a Plan of Operation for carrying our Project into Execution; to persuade him of the Moderation of our Demands; to explain to him the Part *Omicund* is acting; and assure him of our Constancy and Attachment to his Cause; that our Request for his not fortifying below *Houghly*, is not on Account of any Apprehensions we entertain of his Integrity, but to provide against any Designs of his Successors; and in fine, that Mr. *Sraffon* use his Endeavours to get such Security, as can well be given, without discovering the Scheme, that we may have no Room to suspect any Treachery.

Roger Drake, Junior,  
Robt Clive,  
Richd Becher.

Proceedings, 19th May 1757.  
Fort William, 19th May 1757.

Thursday, 19th May 1757.

At a Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, President,  
James Kilpatrick, Esquire,  
Richard Becher, Esquire.

The Proceedings of the 17th Instant, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Clive*, inclosing the real and fictitious Articles of Agreement, which he desires we will sign, as we may observe Dispatch is necessary: By the Copy of a Letter he now sends for our Perusal, from Mr. *Watts*; he informs us, There are

no Alterations to the Articles we agreed upon, excepting its being left to Mr. *Watts*, his Discretion, to demand either a Crore, or 50 Laaks for the Company, as he finds *Meer Jaffer* disposed; and an additional Article annexed, binding the aforesaid *Jaffer Ally Cawn*, to the Performance of the Contract, under the most solemn Oaths; and that we, on our Part, will assist him with our whole Force, to establish him in the Government.

Read Mr. *Watts*, his Letter, to the Colonel, dated the 16th Instant; wherein he informs him, that *Meer Jaffer* had sent a Blank Paper, with his Seal affixed, for the Articles to be wrote on: He recommends the Agreement therefore to be returned him with the utmost Hast, and every Thing will be finished in Two Hours.

Read the Agreement transmitted by Colonel *Clive*, to be executed by Admiral *Watson*, and the Committee; which being approved, was now signed.

Ordered, It be entered after this Day's Proceedings.

Roger Drake, Junior, Richard Becher.

Translation of the Treaty executed by *Meer Jaffer*.

(Wrote in his own Hand.)

I swear by God, and the Prophet of God, to abide by the Terms of this Treaty whilst I have Life.

Meer Mahmud Jaffer  
Khan Babadr, servant  
of King Alamgeer.

Treaty made with the Admiral, and Colonel *Clive*, *Sabut Jung Babadr*, and the other Councillors, and Mr. *Drake*, and Mr. *Watts*.

1st. Whatever Articles were agreed upon in the Time of Peace, with the Nabob *Serajeb Dowla Musfurumematek Shah Kulli Khan Babadr Hybat Jung*, I agree to comply with.

2d. The Enemies of the *Englishs* are my Enemies, whether they be *Indians* or *Europeans*.

3d. All the Effects and Factories belonging to the *French* in the Provinces of *Bengal* (the Paradise of Nations) and *Babar* and *Orissa*, shall remain in the Possession of the *Englishs*, nor will I ever allow them any more to settle in the Three Provinces.

4th. In Consideration of the Losses which the *English* Company have sustained by the Capture and Plunder of *Calcutta* by the Nabob, and the Charges occasioned by the Maintenance of their Forces, I will give them One Crore of Rupees.

5th. For the Effects plundered from the *English* Inhabitants of *Calcutta*, I agree to give 50 Laak of Rupees.

6th. For the Effects plundered from the *Jennoos*, *Mussulmen*, and other Subjects of *Calcutta*, Twenty Laak of Rupees shall be given.

7th. For the Effects plundered from the *Armenian* Inhabitants of *Calcutta*, I will give the Sum of Seven Laak of Rupees—The Distribution of the Sum allotted the Natives, *English* Inhabitants, *Jennoos*, and *Mussulmen*, shall be left to the Admiral and Colonel *Clive*, *Sabut Jung Babadr*, and the rest of the Committee, to be disposed of by them, to whom they think proper.

8th. Within the Ditch which surrounds the Borders of *Calcutta*, are Tracts of Land belonging to several Zemindars, and all the Offu, besides this, I will grant the *English* Company Six hundred Yards without the Ditch.

9th. All the Land lying to the South of *Calcutta*, as far as *Culpee*, shall be under the Zemindary of the *Englishs*.

*English* Company, and all the Officers of those Parts shall be under their Jurisdiction.—The Revenues to be paid by them (the Company) in the same Manner with other Zemindars.

10th. Whenever I demand the *English* Assistance, I will be at the Charge of the Maintenance of them.

11th. I will not erect any new Fortifications below *Hugley*, near the River *Ganges*.

12th. As soon as I am established in the Government of the Three Provinces, the aforesaid Sums shall be faithfully paid.

Dated 15th *Ramzan*, in the 4th Year of the Reign.

Six Letters from *Serajab Dowla* to the *French*, and One from Mr. *Law*.

N° 1. Supposed to be wrote the latter End of February 1757.

*Serajab Dowla*, to the exalted in Station, greatest among great Officers, the Support of Friendship, Monsieur *Bufte Bahadre*.

These Disturbers of my Country, the Admiral and Colonel *Clive*, *Sabut Jung*, whom bad Fortune attends without any Reason whatever, are warring against *Zub-darook Toojab*, Monsieur *Rennault*, the Governor of *Chandernagore*: This you will learn from his Letters, I, who in all Things seek the Good of Mankind, assist him in every Respect, and have sent him the best of my Troops that he may join with them and fight the *English*; and if it becomes necessary, I will join him myself. I hope in God, these *English* who are unfortunate, will be punished for the Disturbances they have raised. Be confident, look on my Forces as your own. I have wrote you before for Two thousand Soldiers and Musketeers, under the Command of One or Two trusty Chiefs: I persuade myself, you have already sent them as I desired; should you not, I desire you will do me the Pleasure to send them immediately. Further Particulars you will learn from Monsieur *Rennault*. Oblige me with frequent News of your Health.

N° 2. Supposed to be wrote about the Middle of March 1757.

*Serajab Dowla*, to the distinguished of the Empire, the Sword of Riches, the victorious in War, Monsieur *Bufte Bahadre*.

I have with great Pleasure received News of your being arrived near the *Orissa* Country with a powerful Army of Soldiers, *Telingas*, &c. to the Assistance of the Commander of *Chandernagore*. I promise myself great Pleasure in seeing you; a Meeting will confirm the great Friendship between us. I have ordered the Naibs of the Subah, the Phoudars and Zemindars of *Midnapore*, to wait on you, and assist you in your March.

N° 3. Supposed to be wrote the latter End of March 1757.

*Serajab Dowla* to Monsieur *Bufte Bahadre*, &c.

I am advised, that you are arrived at *Echapore*: This News gives me Pleasure; the sooner you come here, the greater Satisfaction I shall have in meeting you.—What can I write of the Perfidy of the *English*? they have without Ground picked a Quarrel with Monsieur *Rennault*, and taken by Force his Factory: They want now to quarrel with Monsieur *Law*, your Chief at *Cissimbuzar*; but I will take Care to oppose and over-

throw their Proceedings: When you come to *Ballafore*, I will then send Monsieur *Law* to your Assistance, unless you forbid his setting out. Rest assured of my Good Will towards you and your Company; and to convince you of my Sincerity, I now send *Purwannahs* to *Didaraly*, and *Ramaget Pundit*, and to *Razacrim Sing*, that as soon as you may enter the Province, that they may meet and lend you all possible Assistance, and not on any Pretence impede your March. Both at *Cuttack Rajab* of *Ballafore*, and *Midnapore*.

N° 4. Supposed to be wrote the latter End of March 1757.

*Serajab Dowla* to *Rajaram Sing*.

You write me that Monsieur *Bufte* is arrived at *Echapore*, 6 Days Journey on this Side *Chicacul*, and 6 Days on the other Side *Cuttack*; this Letter I have received: You must obtain good Intelligence and employ proper *Escarras*, and so soon as Monsieur *Bufte* is arrived in your Limits, receive him in the politest Manner, so that he may be well pleased and satisfied with you: The Moment Monsieur *Bufte* arrives, present him the inclosed *Purwannah*: Enquire diligently and inform me, whether he has passed the *Chilka*. I have wrote to *Didaraly* and *Ramaget Pundit*, that when Monsieur *Bufte* or his Army arrives, they do not impede them.

N° 5. Supposed to be wrote the latter End of April 1757.

*Serajab Dowla* to Monsieur *Law*.

I send you 10,000 Rupees for your Expenses. Remain quiet at *Rajamaul*. When Monsieur *Bufte Bahadre*, &c. comes on this Side *Cuttack*, I will then send for you.

N° 6. Supposed to be wrote the latter End of April 1757.

*Serajab Dowla* to *Abdoulia*.

I have sent Monsieur *Law* 10,000 Rupees: Do you countenance and assist him at *Rajamaul*; and when I write for him to come here, do you accompany Monsieur *Law*:—Write the Purport of what I now inform you of, to *Mahmud Nazam*.

N° 7. Monsieur *Law* to Monsieur *Bugrofs*, Chief of *Sydabad*.

Je viens de recevoir une Lettre du Nabob, par laquelle il m'ordonne de retourner à *Meuxadabad*; il veut, dit il, se joindre à nous pour tomber sur les *Anglois*. J'ai reçu aussi une Lettre du Sieur *Changau*, qui me donne d'assez bonnes Nouvelles. Je suis surpris que vous ne m'avez rien, car je ne puis croire que vous soyez tout-à-fait ignorant de ce qui se passe. J'envoie Monsieur de *Sinfray* au Nabob, avec lequel il est chargé d'entrer en Negociation. Il a Ordre de rester à notre Loge; comme il est votre Ancien, vous aurez la Bonté de le reconnoître pour Chef, et de lui obéir en cette Qualité. Peut-être irai-je bientôt vous trouver. J'ai l'Honneur d'être,

avec une parfaite Consideration,  
 Du Camp Monsieur,  
 devant *Champagnore*, votre très humble,  
 le 4me Mai 1757. & très obéissant Serviteur,  
*Law*.

## APPENDIX, N° 6.

Letter from *Charles Watson*, to President, &c. of Select Committee, dated 3 March.

To the President, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

I Have the Favour of your Letter of Yesterday's Date, acquainting me, the Nabob having signified his Dislike to any Hostilities being committed on the *French* within his Territories, has occasioned you to alter your Opinion of acting offensively against the *French* within the *Ganges*; and the *French* having applied to you, to enter into a Neutrality, you have drawn up Articles for that Purpose, and desire my Sentiments and Approbation thereon, before you sign it: My Approbation you always may depend on, in every Thing that will tend to the Company's Advantage; how far this Neutrality will answer that End, you must be the best Judges.—However, as you have desired my Sentiments thereon, I have very maturely considered the Articles you have drawn up, and am of Opinion, the Treaty ought not to take Place, till such Time it is returned from *Pondicherry*, ratified and confirmed; and then, upon your signifying to me, my observing such a Neutrality will be the properest Step that can be taken for the Advantage of the Company's Affairs, I shall, upon such a Representation, have no Objection to giving you my Promise thereto.

This would be making a Neutrality on the surest Foundation, that can be obtained in this Part of the World; and indeed, upon my hearing the first Hints from the *French* of this Design, I did suppose the Committee at *Chandernagore* was invested with proper Powers, to make and confirm such a Treaty of themselves, otherwise I should not have listened to them as much as I did: But since I have been assured by the present Deputies, they have not those Powers, but that the Articles must be sent to *Pondicherry*, to be there ratified and confirmed, I can by no Means think of agreeing to such a Neutrality, whereby it is so evident, the *French* will have every Advantage, and we subject to every Uncertainty. Will they not reap immediate Benefit by the Neutrality as it now stands? And further, Shall we be certain of its being complied with, till it is returned from *Pondicherry*, ratified and confirmed by the Governor and Council there? This appears to me, to be giving so sensible an Advantage to the *French*, without even a Possibility of benefiting by it ourselves, that, with regard to myself, I cannot think of giving my Consent to its taking Place, till such Time we are certain it will be agreed to by the Governor and Council of *Pondicherry*.

The 6th says, in order to validate this Treaty, and make it more authentic, both Parties shall send a *Person* Form of a Guarantee to the Nabob, and use their joint Endeavours to prevail on him, and some of his principal Officers, to sign and swear to the same.

I make no Doubt of this being a very proper Measure of making the Treaty lasting and firm between both Nations, provided the Objections to the Nabob being properly qualified for such an Office, were removed. It is now Three Weeks since the Peace commenced, in which, many Articles were promised by him: Are they yet complied with? Give me Leave to go a little farther, and ask, When they will be

complied with? I am afraid it is too difficult a Question, to be answered with any Degree of Exactness: Is it reasonable then to suppose, if the Nabob should sign this Guarantee, and swear to the Observance of it, that he will pay any more Regard to that, than he has done to the fulfilling the several Articles of the Peace? or is it the Policy of this Country, to place your Confidence in the Man who has not observed his Word, though bound by the most solemn Protections? If it is, you could not pitch upon a more proper Man to guarantee this Treaty, than the Man you have chose. But as you have desired my Sentiments on this Matter, I must beg Leave to tell you, that I can by no Means think the Nabob ought to be addressed on this Subject, till he has fulfilled all the Articles of the Peace; and that appears to me, to be the most necessary Business to be hastened, and I think as short Time as possible should be given him for the completing it: If he intends Peace, and to continue in Friendship with us, he will comply; but if not, he will deal evasively, to gain Time, till he thinks himself strong enough to return here again; therefore it's my Opinion, you should acquaint him, unless the Articles are complied with by such a Time, you should esteem him as an Enemy, and act accordingly.

This, Gentlemen, from the best Reflections I have been able to make, is my sincere Opinion of the Subject you desired.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
humble Servant,  
*Chas Watson.*

P. S. Inclosed, I return you the Deputies Answer to your Articles.

Lord Clive's Letter, dated 4th March 1757.

To the honourable *Roger Drake*, Esquire, &c.  
Members of the Select Committee of *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

As *Mr. Watson* has declined accepting the Two Expedients proposed to him by us, in refusing either to attack *Chandernagore* immediately, or enter into such a Neutrality with the *French*, as we have recommended to him, and which we think greatly for the Benefit of the *East India* Company, both in these Provinces, and on the Coast of *Coromandel*; I think he has taken the Consequences of all Miscarriages upon himself: as in so doing, if I am not misinformed, he runs counter to his Majesty's Instructions, which require, that he should give Attention to all Representations made to him, by the Company's Agents in *India*, for the Good of their Service.

This leads me very seriously to consider the Situation of the Company's Affairs on the Coast, and the positive Orders I have received from the President and Committee at *Madras*, to return at all Events with as great a Part of the Forces under my Command, as could possibly be spared. This, Gentlemen, you are fully acquainted with, and must be sensible, nothing can induce me to risk any longer my Return to the Coast, now rendered very uncertain by the Lateness of the Season; but the immediate Attack of *Chandernagore*, become, in my Opinion, absolutely necessary. If the

Neutrality



Neutrality be refused, do but reflect, Gentlemen, what will be the Opinion of the World of these our late Proceedings. Did we not, in Consequence of a Letter received from the Governor and Council of *Chandernagore*, making Offers of a Neutrality within the *Ganges*, in a Manner accede to it, by desiring, they would send Deputies, and that we would gladly come into such a Neutrality with them? and have we not, since their Arrival, drawn out Articles that were satisfactory to both Parties; and agreed, that such Articles should be reciprocally signed, sealed, and sworn to? What will the Nabob think, after the Promises made him on our Side, and after his consenting to guarantee this Neutrality? he, and all the World will certainly think, that we are Men without Principles, or that we are Men of a trifling insignificant Disposition. It is therefore incumbent on us to exculpate ourselves, by declaring the real Truth, that we were intirely ignorant of Mr. *Watson's* Intentions to refuse the Neutrality in the Manner proposed, and settled by us, and that we always thought him of a contrary Opinion, to what his Letter declares. I am persuaded, these must be the Sentiments of the Gentlemen of the Committee, or they never would have gone such Lengths, as must expose them to the Censure of all reasonable and conscientious Men.

You may be assured, the Instant the *French* find their Offers of Neutrality refused, they will immediately assist the Nabob in all his Designs against us, if he has the least Intentions of not complying with the late Articles of Peace; it may then be too late to wish Mr. *Watson* had been pleased to pay more Attention to our Representations.

Give me Leave, Gentlemen, further to represent, that though Mr. *Watson* has done every Thing that could be expected from a brave and gallant Man, and has been greatly instrumental towards settling the Affairs of this Province, that our future Operations against the Nabob will chiefly depend upon the Land Forces; and the Officers of such Forces must certainly be the best Judges of what can be effected by Land; and I do take upon me to give it as mine and my Officers Opinions, that Success against the Nabob and *French* together will be very precarious, notwithstanding the Arrival of the *Bombay* Troops, which fell short in real Strength, of the Detachment on board the *Cumberland*: I must therefore request you will join with me, in desiring Mr. *Watson* a Third Time to ratify the Neutrality in the Manner agreed upon; and if he refuses, to desire he will attack *Chandernagore* by Water immediately, as I am ready to do by Land with the Forces under my Command; and if he refuses this likewise, he becomes responsible for every Misfortune that may happen to the *East India* Company's Affairs.

This done, I propose leaving all the Forces I can possibly spare for the Defence of the Company's Settlements, Rights, and Privileges, in *Bengal*, and return with the rest immediately to the *Coast*, agreeable to the positive Orders received from the President and Committee of *Madras*; and I must request you will order proper Conveyances for that Purpose.

I am, with great Respect,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Robert Clive.*

*Calcutta,*  
4th March 1757.

Two Letters from *Charles Watson*, dated 7th and 12th March 1757.

*Fort William*, the 12th March 1757.  
Saturday, 12th March.

At a Committee,  
P R E S E N T,  
The honourable *Roger Drake*, Esquire,  
Messieurs *Clive* and  
*Kilpatrick*.

Gentlemen,

I have the Favour of your Letter of Yesterday's Date, acquainting me of your having received a Letter from Mr. *Watson*, with one enclosed from the Nabob, which had occasioned some Alteration in your Opinions. I beg Leave to acquaint you, I also received a Letter Yesterday from the Nabob, by which I do imagine, it's possible yet to obtain his Consent to attack the *French*; therefore, I immediately answered his Letter, and strongly pressed him for his Permission, which if he should grant, I am very ready to give you all the Assistance in my Power for reducing the *French*, and attacking them wherever there is a Prospect of succeeding.

You must be very sensible, that some Time since, on your Application to me for attacking *Chandernagore*, by Land and Sea, I assembled a Council of War, when it was agreed to put it in Execution; and I was just upon the Point of proceeding up the River, but you again altered your Opinion, and from your Representations it would be then prejudicial to the Company's Affairs, I desisted.

As soon as I hear from the Nabob, I will do myself the Pleasure to give you an Answer to the latter Part of your Letter, relating to the Neutrality.

I have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Charles Watson.*

*Fort William,*  
7th March 1757.

Gentlemen,

I have received your Favour of this Day's Date, acquainting me with your Motives and Reasons for altering your Sentiments in relation to your Conduct with the *French*, and now desiring the Assistance of His Majesty's Squadron to attack *Chandernagore*.

You may be assured, I shall most readily give you all the Assistance I can in this Enterprize, and am heartily glad in the present Circumstances I am in, of having received His Majesty's Declaration of War against *France*, with Orders from the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to put the same in Execution, that this Step is judged a right Measure.

The Moment the Pilots think it safe to move the large Ships, I shall proceed up the River, and am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Charles Watson.*

*Fort William,*  
12th March 1757.

Last Paragraph of Colonel *Clive's* Letter to the Secret Committee, dated 22 August 1757.

Mr. *Watson* is no more; every one here received the melancholy News of his Death with much Concern. His Generosity, Disinterestedness, and Zeal for the Service, must for ever endear his Memory to the Company. Unhappy Fate! after having escaped all the Risques of War, to be thus untimely cut off in the Midst of his Successes, crowned with Glory and Reputation! This is but one of the many Lessons given us of the Instability of human Nature.—Concern for this good Man's Death hastens me to a Conclusion, and I have only to assure you, I am, with the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obliged humble Servant,  
*Robt Clive.*

*Calcutta,*  
22d August 1757.

## A P P E N D I X, N° 7.

Copy of a Letter to Lord Clive, for the Delivery of Part of the Correspondence held by him with the Country Powers in Bengal.

My Lord,

I N your Lordship's Answer to a Letter, which I had the Honour to write to you in *October* last, by Order of the Gentlemen in the Direction, concerning the Country Correspondence, from the 24th *January* 1759 to the Time your Lordship left *India*, you were pleased to signify, that you proposed being in Town in a few Days, and would then lay before them any Books or Papers, which the Gentlemen might think any wise serviceable to the Cause of the *English East India Company*; at the same Time, your Lordship intimated, that to the best of your Remembrance, you were in Possession of the Country Correspondence, to the Time of your leaving *India* in *February* 1760, but that there were One or Two material Sections mislaid, which you had made diligent Search after some Time ago, but did not despair of finding them upon a farther Enquiry.

As your Lordship has not yet transmitted this Correspondence to the Company, which they are advised is absolutely necessary to be examined and considered, in forming their Answer to the Bill preferred by your Lordship against them in the Court of Chancery, as well as that the Company are, from withholding this Correspondence, left entirely in the Dark with respect to more than a whole Year's Transactions, and at a very material Crisis, with the Country Powers; I am therefore, in Consequence of a Resolution of the Court of Directors, to desire your Lordship will forthwith deliver to the Company, the Whole of the before mentioned Correspondence, together with all Books, Writings, and Papers, whatsoever, in your Lordship's Possession, which in anywise relate to, or concern, the Company's Affairs, agreeably to the Covenants entered into between the Company and your Lordship.

I am, with great Respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

*Robt James*, Secretary.  
*East India House*,  
the 12th *August* 1763.

Letter from Lord Clive, that he will send his Country Correspondence, mentioned in the Secretary's Letter of the 12th *August*, as soon as he makes a Transcript thereof.

S I R,

The Country Correspondence mentioned in your Letter of the 12th *August* last, is transcribing and is not yet finished; the Moment the Transcript is made, the Original shall be delivered to you.

As to the Sections mislaid, they were delivered by me, in *September* or *October* 1760, to Mr. Campbell, in order to prepare a Memorial concerning the *Dutch Affairs*, to be laid before Mr. Pitt, the then Secretary of State; and from that Time to this, I have not had or seen them; and although I have made the best Enquiry after them I can, I have not yet been able to come at them, or find out where they are: But I can assure the Court of Directors from my own Knowledge, that there is nothing contained in those Sections, which can anyways affect the Matter in Dispute between the *East India Company* and myself; and if the Court of Di-

rectors are desirous of having any farther Satisfaction, that may be had, I believe, on applying to Mr. Campbell, who is acquainted with the Contents of the missing Sections.

As to the Demand of the Court of Directors, that I shall produce all Books, Papers, and Writings, whatsoever, in my Possession, agreeable to the Covenants entered into between the Company and me; I must observe to you, Sir, that those Covenants extend only to the commercial Affairs of the Company, in which I had little or no Concern; however, I am searching for all Papers in my Custody, relative to Affairs of that Kind, which I will deliver to the Court of Directors; and although I am not (as I am advised) obliged to produce any Books or Papers, other than such as relate to the commercial Affairs I have mentioned, yet I am ready to produce any other Books, Papers, or Writings, in my Custody or Power, relative to any of the Affairs of the Company, if the Court of Directors will be pleased to specify the particular Books, Writings, or Papers, they desire to inspect.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

*Clive*.

*Berkeley Square*,

*September* 12th 1763.

The President to the *Seats*, dated 31st *January* 1759.

N° 281.

I always understood, that when you had procured me the Sunnod for a 6,000 Munsul and 5,000 Horse, with the Title of *Zubdat al Mulk Nazier ad Doula*, that the Nabob would have favoured me with a Jaguire, equal to the Rank I received by my Sunnod; but to this Day I have not heard a Word from him concerning it. As this is an Affair of my own, I have not chole to address the Nabob thereon now. As there is a strong Friendship subsisting between you and me, I beg Leave to give you the Trouble to apply to the Nabob concerning this Affair, and that I may have a Jaguire equal to my Rank.

From the *Seats* to the President. No Date: Received 20th *February* 1759.

Your Two obliging Letters, One answering ours which accompanied some Apples to you; the other, that you understood, when we had procured you a Munsul and Titles, that the Nabob would have favoured you with a Jaguire, equal to the Rank you received by your Sunnod, but that to the Writing of your Letter, you had not heard from him concerning it; that on Account of the Friendship subsisting between us, you desired we would apply to the Nabob and procure it; we have with great Pleasure received, and are rejoiced to hear you are in good Health, for which we return God Thanks: Agreeable to your Orders, we addressed the Nabob to give you a Jaguire; he has long determined not to grant Jaguires in the Subahship of Bengal; *Orissa* is poor, but if it is agreeable to you to have one in the Subahship of *Babar*, it will be immediately granted you; of this I thought proper to advise you. Please to acquaint us with your Resolution on this Affair. We are going to a Place of Devotion with all our Family in a Day or two, accompanied by some of the Nabob's Forces. By the Favour of God we hope to return in Six Weeks.

N° 326.

N<sup>o</sup> 126.

The President to *Shah Allum Bahadur*, Son of *Allum Guir*, Baudhab, and Successor of the Empire.

Dated 27th February 1759.

I have had the Honour to receive your Highness's Firmaund; it gives me great Concern to find that this Country must undergo a Scene of Troubles.—I beg Leave to inform you, that I have been favoured with a Sunnod from the Emperor, appointing me a Munfubdar

of the Rank of 6,000 and of 5,000 Horfe, which constitutes me a Servant of his; and as I have not received any Orders, either from the Emperor or the Vizier, acquainting me of your coming down here, I cannot pay that due Regard to your Highness's Orders which I would otherwise wish to do.

I must further beg Leave to inform you, that I am under the strictest Engagements with the present Subah of these Provinces, to assist him at all Times, and it is not the Custom of the *English* Nation to be guilty of Infincerity.

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup> 8.

From the *Stats* to the President. No Date:  
Received 4th June 1759.

SOME Time ago we were favoured with an obliging Letter, from you to this Purport, That you had been honoured with a Munfub, of the Rank of 6,000, and the Command of 5,000 Horfe from the Prefence; and that we, who are your faithful Servants, had procured you the Sunnod, but that as yet no Jaguire had been granted for the same, and desiring that we would address the Nabob as we thought proper on that Affair,

and procure the Jaguire, which would give you Satisfaction.—Agreeable to your Orders we often reminded him of it, and he himself was contriving about it; We have lately addressed him again, and he informs us, that he has pitched on a Place for your Jaguire in the Subahship of *Bengal*; and by the Blessing, when you return to this City, an Account thereof will be delivered to you. On this we rose and paid the usual Compliment on this Occasion. We, who are your sincere Friends and Well wishers, hope to be favoured with an Account of your Health.

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup> 9.

Mr. Holwell's Address to Mr. Vanfittart, 4th August 1760.

Fort William the 4th August 1760.  
Monday. At a Select Committee,

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Brightwell Sumner*,  
*John Zephaniah Holwell*, } Esquires.  
*William McGwire*,

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of 28th ult.

Agreeable to the President's Request, Mr. Holwell now lays before the Committee a short Address, with such Remarks, and Memorials, as may convey to the President a Knowledge of the present Situation of the Company's Affairs in these Provinces.

Dated 4th August.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"AS my Health, and the Consideration of other  
"A Circumstances, will soon oblige me to request  
"Permission from the Board to resign the Service, I  
"beg Leave, previous to that Step, to accompany this  
"short Address with such Remarks and Memorials as  
"may convey to the honourable the President (so lately  
"arrived amongst us) a Knowledge of the present State  
"and Situation of the Company's Affairs, as they stand  
"connected with, or dependant on, the Government  
"of *Bengal*.  
Vol. III.

"To form a Judgment of the present State of Things  
"in *Bengal*, it will be needful to retrospect on the late  
"Revolution of the Year 1757, when Necessity, and a  
"just Repentment for the most cruel Injuries, obliged  
"us to enter into a Plan to deprive *Surajah Dowlah* of  
"his Government; which was accordingly done, and  
"*Mir Mahomed Ally Khan* fixed, by us, at the Head  
"of the Provinces, on certain Conditions, and under  
"Treaty of Alliance, offensive and defensive.

"A short Space of Time fully proved how unwor-  
"thy the Family thus raised: The Conditions of the  
"Treaty could not be obtained from the Nabob with-  
"out being in a Manner extorted from him; and by a  
"thousand Shifts and Evasions, it was plain to the  
"World no single Article would ever have been com-  
"plied with, had the Nabob been invested with Power  
"sufficient to have prevented it, or could he have  
"divested himself of his own Fears and Apprehensions  
"from our Repentments.

"Tankas on the Lands were however granted for the  
"Payment of the stipulated Sums, at parti ular Times,  
"by which the Roy-Royen Dewans, Mutfuddies, and  
"every Harpy employed in the Zemindary and Reve-  
"nues, became our implacable Enemies; and con-  
"sequently,

"A Party was soon raised at the Durbar, headed by  
"the Nabob's Son, *Miram*, and *Rajah Raggebullah*, who  
"were daily planning Schemes to shake off their Depen-  
"dence on the *English*, and continually urging to the  
"Nabob, that until this was effected his Government  
"was a Name only: The Nabob, something irritated

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" by the Protection given *Rajah Doolubram*, and weak and irresolute in himself, fell too soon into these Sentiments.

" The first Step taken to accomplish this Measure of Independence, was to assassinate, and take off, under one Pretence or other, every Minister and Officer at the Durbar, whom they knew were attached to the *English*. In Consequence of which *Coza Huddy*, and *Cuzzum Ally Khan*, First and Second Buxy, were assassinated in November and December 1758, and after many Attempts made on the Persons of *Rahim Khan*, *Gulam Shaw*, his Uncle, and Brother, they were at last obliged to seek an Asylum with the *Shah Zadah*, 1759.—*Keydoolab*, his Son and four Brothers, were likewise, on no Account but that of the various Informations he gave us, and his firm Attachment. This Family would have fallen a Sacrifice, had they not been rescued out of the Nabob's Hands by Force of Arms. *Amir Beg Khan* would from the same Cause have suffered the same Fate, had he not given his solemn Engagement to quit the Kingdom; which he accordingly did.

" The next Project of the Durbar appeared, by every concurring subsequent Circumstance, to be a secret Negotiation with the *Dutch*, for transporting Troops from *Batavia* into these Provinces; that with their united Force a Stop might be put to the Power of the *English*. This Scheme was conducted by *Raja Raghubab*, on the one Part, and *Farisatagar*, for the *Dutch*, on the other, about October or November 1758, the Period when the *Deans* Expedition took Place, and the Garrison was much reduced.

" Soon after, the Provinces were invaded by the *Shah Zadah*, on the Side of *Punna*, and Colonel *Clive*, with our Military, and *Sepoys*, joined the Nabob and his Troops, and by forced Marches overtook *Rajah Rannarrain* already in his Duty, and arrived just in Time to save that City and Province, and drive the Prince, though the undoubted Heir to the Kingdom, beyond the *Curramajfar*, and brought the *Budgepore*, &c. Countries into Subjection to the Nabob.

" The Prince more than once wrote to the Colonel, offering any Terms for the Company, and himself, on Condition the *English* would quit the Nabob, and join his Arms; but the Colonel thinking it incompatible with our Treaty with the Nabob, gave the Prince no Encouragement.

" At the End of the Campaign the Colonel returned to us in June 1759, and the Two Nabobs arrived at the City, about the same Time, with full Conviction of our firm Attachment to his Government and Family, and our religious Regard to our Treaties.—What Sense they retained of these Obligations, and how long, will appear by and by.

" The Nabobs, thinking themselves now better established in the Government, and screened by such a sure and powerful Support as our Arms, began to set no Bounds to their Cruelties, Oppressions, and Exactions from those who had any Thing to be plundered of.—And this barely received a Check from the severe and frequent Remonstrances of Colonel *Clive* to the Nabob, on a Conduct which he foretold him must, from the general Detestation of his People, end in the Destruction of himself, Family, and Country.—His Troops, clamorous at the same Time for their Pay, whilst the Nabob, in Place of appropriating the Sums he had acquired by repeated Assassinations, to the just Demands of his Jemmadars and Troops, lavished the same in boundless Extravagancies.

" About the latter End of July 1759, the young Nabob arrived, on a pretended Visit to Colonel *Clive*; but the real Motive was to negotiate, if possible, the Delivery of *Rajarage Doolubram*, and Two or Three other Articles given him in Charge by his Father;

" such as the Surrender of the Tanka Lands on Security; the borrowing of us a large Sum of Money, &c. In these, the Son proving unsuccessful, a Member of the Board, and Select Committee, was, at his Desire, sent to accompany him to the City, to reconcile the Nabob to the Negatives his Son had received at *Calcutta*; and at the same Time to intimate to him the Advice we had received, that a large Armament was sitting out at *Bataria*, destined for *Bengal*, and to penetrate, if possible, his Sentiments on this Occasion, and what Resolutions he would come to, in Case that Force arrived in the River.

" He was not to be reconciled to the Refusals his Son had met, but determined to try his own Power, and declared his Intention to pay the Colonel a Visit himself in September; which he did, with Success equal to his Son. He seemed to make light of the *Dutch* Intelligence, and not to give Credit to it, though he discovered much Perplexity. However, he wrote a Letter to the Colonel, demanding our Assistance, by the Virtue of the Treaty of Alliance, in Case the *Dutch* Troops came into the River.

" The Armament arrived during his Visit; his Stay after that was short; his Mind seemed much embarrassed, and his whole subsequent Conduct gave most undoubted Proofs, that the *Dutch* Forces were arrived by his Invitation. That such were the Sentiments of Colonel *Clive* and the Council, appears from the Narrative of that *Dutch* Business, transmitted to the honourable the Court of Directors, and to our several Admirals. A Perusal of this Narrative will convince the impartial, that the Nabob, in his Behaviour on this Occasion, was guilty of a most flagitious Breach of the Article of the Treaty of Alliance; and that from the Period, no Terms whatever should have been preferred with him, after such unexampled Treachery and Ingratitude. To which, by Way of Illustration, we may add the subsequent Forces carried on between the Nabob and the *Dutch*, as set forth in the several Letters between Mr. *Holwell*, and the Resident at *Morarbag*, on this Subject; by Reference to which it will appear most manifest, that the Nabob's real Intentions never were to distress effectually that People, but on the contrary were only aimed to amuse and deceive us; witness the private Orders and Instructions given to *Mbir Cossim Ally Khan*, so opposite to his public ones, when he was sent down to demolish the new Works at *Chinpara*; in the apparent Delays of this Service, *Cossim Ally Khan* suffered much in the Opinion of the late President, though unjustly, as we subsequently learnt he was acting conformable to the private Orders of the Nabob.

" In the Beginning of the Year 1760, the *Shaw Zadda* invaded the Provinces again, with a Force more respectable than the preceding Year, both in Troops and Commanders, by the Revolt of *Cangar Koop*, *Gulam Shaw*, *Reim Khan*, and others; the Nabob, by this Time, having made himself and Family so universally hated, that we may justly say there was hardly a Man in the Provinces, that did not wish Success to the Prince.

" Colonel *Clive* resigned the Government early in February 1760, about which Time the *Mbarattas* entered the Province, from the Southward, and penetrated into the *Burdwan* Country, making a considerable Diversion in Favour of the Prince. The Nabob demanded a Body of our Troops, *Sepoys*, and Field Artillery, for the Defence of this Country, to join his, under the Command of *Mbir Cossim Ally Khan*, which was granted; but their Use was frustrated by the Nabob's pusillanimous, irregular, and contradictory, Orders to his General, *Cossim Ally Khan*, to march with our Troops to *Catwah*, and the City, in Place of marching directly to the Southward. Thus this Country fell a Prey to the *Mbarattas*, and a Stop

" was put to the Collecting our Tankas, on which was our greatest Dependence and Expectation, for the Service of the Year (Vid. Military Correspondence in the Months of February and March 1760.)

" Our Troops, under the Command of Major Cail- land, had taken the Field, in Conjunction with the Nabob's, under Command of his Son, some Time before the Colonel's Departure for Europe, and shipped their Rout towards Patna, whilst the Nabob himself remained in the Neighbourhood of Rajambol, a Check on Cuddera Hossain Khan, Nabob of Purnea (then in Rebellion) until Subut's Advance recalled him to the City.

" A regular and particular Detail of the Transactions of this laborious Campaign will not be expected here, as the Progress of it will prefix itself in the Course of the Military Correspondence laid before the Committee; therefore Remarks on the Success, Effects, and probable Consequences, will be sufficient.

" This, like the former ones, has produced no definitive Action, or Stroke, to lay the least Foundation of a Peace to these Provinces. In the Course of this Campaign Three morally sure and important Opportunities were lost, by the Cowardice of both the Nabob's; the First, when the young Nabob refused to join the Major in the immediate Pursuit of the Shaw Zadda, when routed near Patna; the Second, when the old Nabob refused to comply with the Major's earnest Request and Demand, to cross his Horse over the Burdwan River, and attack the Prince, when united with Subut, &c. the Third, when, in the late Pursuit of Cuddera Hossain Khan, the young Nabob refused to lead or detach his Horse to the Major's Assistance, by which a general Action might have been brought on; but, on the contrary, he kept encamped Two or Three Miles in the Major's Rear, as if his Intentions were to leave our Troops without Horse, a Sacrifice to the Enemy. Had the most been made of either of these favourable Occasions, the Stroke had, in all human Probability, been decisive; as it is, it only proves, that we continue to draw our Swords in Support of a Family most unworthy the Government they have by our Assistance usurped; and this to the manifest Hazard and Ruin of the Company's Trade and Concerns.

" On the near Approach of the Major to Patna he received a Phirmaund from the Prince, of which he advised the Board, and promised to forward a Copy; but no Wonder, that in the Course of so extraordinary and fatiguing a Campaign, it should escape his Memory. On his Arrival in the Beerboon Country, after the unexpected March he formed upon his Defeat, the President received Intelligence, that the old Nabob had actually a Vakeel in the Shaw Zadda's Camp, and that he was negotiating a separate Treaty with him: This appeared to have so dangerous a Tendency, that any Means were eligible to obtain the Truth of it.

" The late President, by a Third Hand, procured Affud Jumna Khan, Rajah of Beerboon, and his Uncle, Comgaar Khan, to be wrote to on this Subject, of the Nabob's Vakeel and Treaty: This soon produced a Phirmaund from the Prince, inclosing Copy of the Nabob's Arzdaht: The President made no Reply to the Phirmaund, but returned a short one to Comgaar Khan's Letter, which accompanied the Phirmaund, intimating, that Copies carried little Validity where Originals were in Being.

" A few Days before the Prince began his Retreat from the Hills, the President received a Second Phirmaund from him, inclosing original Arzdaht from the Nabob: All that can be said for or against Belief being given either to the Authenticity of the Copy or Original, will appear on the Face of the Correspondence, in Two Letters from the President to the Major, under Dates the 22d and 24th April last, and to

" Mr. Hastings, the 20th of the same Month. To these we may further remark, that if they are Forgeries, they have yet this corroborating Signature of Truth, that the whole Tenor of the Nabob's Conduct most exactly tallies with the Terms of the Arzdaht. But to resume the Course of the Campaign to the present Time:

" Patna is relieved and secure for the present. Cuddera Hossain Khan is dispossessed of his Government, and drove out of the Country, but with all his Treasure and valuable Effects, to the Reproach and Infamy of the young Nabob's Memory; so that after the Rains he will easily join the Prince with the Essentials of War, which he only wants to harass the Provinces Five Years longer. The young Nabob is taken off by a Flash of Lightning, and our Troops are gone into Quarters, after having done as much, or more, than could have been expected, from Men so wretchedly supported by those very People, for whose Preservation they endured every Distress and Fatigue, and braved Variety of Deaths.

" The Prince has found Means to preserve himself and Forces a Footing on this Side the Soane, and in the Neighbourhood of Patna. It is said Comgaar Khan has forsaken the Cause of the Prince; which appears most improbable, not only on Account of his having no other Chance for reimbursing himself, but because we have undoubted Intelligence that 3000 of his Troops have lately joined his Nephew, Affud Jumna Khan, who has thrown off his Allegiance to the Nabob. These Troops are doubtless lodged to make an early and important Diversion, at the Opening of the next Campaign, by entering the Burdwan Country, as soon as the Prince begins to be in Motion above; and thus our Supplies from thence will be again cut off, and the Company's Affairs be reduced to the last Extremity of Distress, unless the approaching Ships of the Season relieve us, or the whole Tankas on those Lands could be collected during the Rains. The latter is hardly possible in any serviceable Degree, and the former carry very little Probability. The late Proposal of the Nabob's, to pay our Balances, and resume his Lands, is devoutly to be wished; but it is likewise to be feared he has no Meaning in it.

" The various Reasons urged against the Measure of supporting the present Government longer on the Plan we have been some Time pursuing, to the heavy Injury of the Company, with various Expedients to rescue them from manifest approaching Ruin, are set forth at large in the Military Correspondence, in Letters from the President to Major Caillaud, under Dates the 24th and 25th of May, 14th June, and 3d July, to Mr. Amoyat, under Date, the 25th and 30th May, and 1st July; both the Reasons and Expedients, in the present State of Affairs, seem rather to confirm than contraindicate any other. However, the sudden Death of the Nabob (if made a proper Use of) seems to point out a middle Way, if Things are not gone too far already, to admit of any other than the dissolving this Family of the Government altogether. Vid. the President's Letter to Mr. Hastings, of the 16th of last Month, and to Major Caillaud, of the 26th, on the Subject of a Successor to the young Nabob's Posses- sions. Respecting all Matters relative to the Dutch, and the Nabob, the Dutch and us, the Tankas, and Ob- structions raised by the Nabob on our collecting them, as also the late Secret Treaty between the Nabob and the Marattas, &c. they will appear on the Face of the Correspondence without Exaggeration."

Ordered, That the foregoing Narrative do lay upon the Table, for the Perusal of the several Members of the Committee.

Henry Vanfittari,  
Wm B. Sumner,  
J. Z. Howell.

Fort William, September the 11th 1760.

The honourable Henry Vanstuart, Esquire, President,  
Lieutenant Colonel John Caillaud,  
William B. Sumner, Esquire,  
John Zeph. Holwell, Esquire,  
William McGwire, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the  
28th ultimo.

Colonel Caillaud arrives  
from Patna.

Colonel Caillaud informs the Committee that he left Patna the 31st of last Month, at which Time the Prince was at Doudnagore, on this Side the *Seane*; that all the Reports of his crossing it were over; and that Monsieur Latou, with Madarab Dawlett, were preparing to repass the River and join him. It was said, their next Motion would be towards Candor Khan, with whom the Operations of the next Campaign were to be settled.

Before we resolve upon a Plan of future Operations, we will attempt a Description of the State the Company's Affairs are now in, and this not to be confined to Bengal, but with regard also to the Exigencies of the other Settlements, who are told to depend on this for Supplies of Money:—Our Influence increasing from Time to Time since the Revolution brought about by Colonel Clive, so have we been obliged to increase our Force to support that Influence. We have now more than a thousand Europeans, and Five thousand *Sepoys*, which, with the contingent Expences of an Army, is far more than the Revenues allotted for their Maintenance. This Deficiency was not so much attended to whilst the immense Sums stipulated by the Treaty were coming in; but these Resources being now quite exhausted, and no Supplies of Money coming from Europe, it becomes immediately necessary to secure to the Company such an Income as will bear them clear of Charges, and bring in, besides, a Supply for the Emergencies of their other Settlements, and for providing Carriages for Loading Home their Ships.—The first Question then that naturally occurs is this:

Whether that great Force is wanted? That a less Force would secure the Settlement of Fort William, with its former Bounds, against every Thing that is now in the Country, is not to be doubted; but it is as certain, that nothing but that Influence and Weight, which we maintain by the Largeness of our Force, can possibly prevent the well-known Designs of the Two principal European Powers, who have long shared with us the Benefit of the Trade of this Country; and to this we may add, that the nearer we approach to a Peace in Europe, the nearer we are to our Danger here.

These Considerations having their due Weight, we believe few will dispute the Necessity of keeping up our present Force, perhaps augmenting it: This granted, it follows, that Means must be found within ourselves of supporting the Expence; and these Means can be no other, than a proportionable Share of the Revenues of the Country.

By the Treaty made with the present Nabob, he is obliged, as often as it may be requisite for our Troops to take the Field, to furnish a Lack of Rupees a Month for their Expence; but the Uncertainty of this Payment has been too long experienced, to be any more depended on; nor indeed is it by any Means sufficient to answer the Purpose, supposing the Payments regularly made: It must therefore be proposed to the Nabob, to assign to the Company a much larger Income, and to assign it in such a full and ample Manner, by giving to the Company the full

Right of such Districts, as lay most convenient for our Management; that we may no longer be subject to the Inconveniencies we experienced from the late Tuncaws, being Orders only on a certain Part of the Revenues.—From the experienced Weakness and Unsteadiness of the Nabob himself, and the Nature of those Dependants who now rule him, and who by self-interested Views must naturally oppose every Increase of our Power, as their own will of course be proportionably lessened; it is to be supposed, that such a Proposal would meet with all the Difficulties that could possibly be thrown in our Way. Notwithstanding those Difficulties, we will suppose we should have Weight enough to over-rule his Counsellors, and to obtain his Consent. We then just keep our present Footing. We have a Fund for paying our Troops; and those Troops must be employed in the Service of the Nabob; and this Service, the same as for these Two last Years, in opposing the Shawzaddah, whose Designs upon these Provinces it is almost certain will be pursued.

From the Experience of these Two Years, it is pretty clear that our Troops, although always victorious in the Field, yet they cannot, by their Success, put an End to the Troubles: The same Cause which has prevented it, still exists; the Nature of those People, in Alliance with whom we are to act, who will not pursue the Advantages we gain, and we not having the Means in our Power, for Want of a Body of Cavalry under our Command.—Thus the War may be protracted for Years to come; and every Year the Nabob's Circumstances grow worse and worse, through an Increase of Expence and Loss of Revenue, not only by the Devastations the Enemy make, but by the continual Defection of some of his own Rajahs and Dependants: Many, in the Course of the Two last Years, have declared themselves; and that others are ripe for doing the same is not to be doubted, particularly the Rajah of *Berboom*, in a Letter the Governor lately received from him, has spoke his Sentiments very freely. The Province of Patna is already so much reduced by the Two last Campaigns, as to be incapable of affording Substantance to the Prince any longer, who must always find on the Spot the Means of carrying on the War, having no Resources within himself; and who consequently must, through Necessity, attempt next Year to penetrate further into Bengal; and in this he will no Doubt, by the Success which attended his last Year's Incursion as far as *Burdwan*.

It is therefore next to be considered, whether it is best for the Interest of the Nabob to pursue the present Measures, by continuing to oppose the Shawzaddah, or to support him in his Pretensions to the Crown of *Delhi*:—The Two Parties still subsist, between whom the Throne is disputed, or rather who shall give a King to that Throne.—One of those Parties has repeatedly invited the Shawzaddah to him; and it is well known what Offers he has made both to the Nabob and us for our Assistance: The same Reasons may be supposed yet to have their Weight with him, while the Dispute remains undecided; and is it not probable that such an Assistance given to the Prince, and thrown into *Abdallah's* Scale, would insure the Success of the Enterprize? The immediate Consequence of this to Bengal would be clearing the Country of an Enemy, by removing the Cause whence all the late Troubles and Confusion have arose; and if we with Reason flatter ourselves we should succeed, what Advantages may not the Company expect?

Supposing this Change of Measures does not appear to the Nabob in the Light we have represented, it is to be considered whether the Exigencies of the Company's Affairs before described, do not require our forming such Connections, independently of him, as may over-rule

rule the Advice and Sway of his Creatures and Ministers.

The unfortunate Death of the young Nabob having created a Number of separate Interests, which it is impossible to conciliate to the Satisfaction of all, and thereby gives the fairest Opportunity to any other European Power to gain a Party to support them in their Designs of establishing an Influence here, is an Inducement to make us follow such a System, as will put this the most out of their Power.

The Share of Influence we now enjoy in these Provinces, however great in Appearance, does not carry with it those real Advantages and weighty Effects which are necessary not to leave that Power in Danger of being disputed, and of failing us at a Time when we most want it; and nothing is more probable than that that Period will happen on a Peace: To prevent the evil Consequences of this, there seems now to offer such an Opportunity of securing to ourselves all we could wish in this Respect, as likely may never happen again; an Opportunity that will give us both Power and Right.

Another principal Motive, that urges us to think of changing our System, is the Want of Money; a Want that is not confined to ourselves alone, but on which greatly depend,

The Operations on the Coast,  
The Reduction of Pondicherry, and

The Provision of an Investment for Loading Home the next Year's Ships at all the Three Presidencies.

It is hardly to be doubted but the Shazaddah would be willing to enter into a Negotiation with us, independent of the Nabob; but such a Measure would neither be for the Interest nor the Honour of our Nation. Our Views in adopting this System, should be directed rather to strengthen, than weaken or overthrow the present Subah:—All we desire, is to see the Power removed out of the Hands of that Set of Men, who now rule and direct the Affairs of the Subah, and through whole Mismanagements and Frauds the Country and his Administration suffer so considerably. To have such a Share of Power invested in the Company, as will enable them to prevent the bad Consequences of so many contending Interests, that will effectually put a Stop to that Diffipation of Revenues, which hath reduced the Nabob to his present distressed Condition; which Revenue, if properly applied, would leave him nor us any Thing to fear from the Designs of any Enemy; effectually secure to us such a Fund as would answer all our present Exigencies; and in Time prove an Encrease of Honour and Advantage to the Nation and the Company.

Henry Vanfittart.  
W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner.  
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, September 15th 1760.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President.  
Colonel Caillaud,  
W<sup>m</sup> Brightwell Sumner, }  
J. Zephaniah Holwell, } Esquires.  
William McGwire, }

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 11th Instant.

The great Objects of our present Deliberation are, First, the securing a Fund of Money for the present and future Exigencies of this Settlement, as well as the other Two Presidencies, no Money being expected from Vol. III.

Europe; and, Secondly, The putting an End to the Disturbances fomented and kept up by the Shazaddah in several Parts of these Provinces; That the Whole may be united under the Nabob, and he put under the more immediate Influence of the Company, whose Force is his chief Support and Dependence. By this Means enabling us to join a large Body of Country Troops to our own, to oppose any Attempts of European or Country Powers.

The Question to be considered is, Whether we can best arrive at these Ends by following the present System of opposing the Shazaddah, or by proposing to him an Alliance with the English, and the Assistance of Part of our Forces to proceed with him to Delhi, and support him in his Pretensions to the Throne.

In following the present System, the chief Difficulties that occur are these.

1st, How to provide for the Payment of the Nabob's Troops and our Army that are opposed to the Shazaddah at Palma.

2dly, How to prevail on the Nabob, besides supplying the above Demand, to furnish us here with the Money wanted for our Military and Commercial Operations, and for the Supply of the other Presidencies.

3dly, The Possibility of the Shazaddah's meeting with better Success than heretofore; and in that Case, What would be our Situation?

4thly, The Defection of different Chiefs in the Country, encouraged by the Shaw, by which the Revenues of such Districts are lost, and those adjacent lessened by their Incursions.

5thly, Supposing we yet meet with Success, how shall we put an End to the War? having experienced, that gaining a Victory over the Shazaddah, does not deprive him of the Means of renewing his Attempts.

6thly, Supposing we should even be able to push our Success so far as to drive the Shazaddah out of the Province, would the confused and impoverished State of the Country, furnish us immediately with the Means of raising the Sums wanted for the general Occasions of the Company.

The raising the Sum wanted is a Difficulty in both Cases, almost unsurmountable;—It certainly cannot be obtained without imposing on the Nabob forcibly, Terms which of his own Good-will he never would come into. In Favour of the Change of System, it is to be said, that the Means and Resources of the Country, from which the Money must come, will be more capable of supplying it when the War is removed

In following the 2d System proposed, the chief Difficulties that occur, are these.

1st, How to gain the Nabob's Consent.

2dly, The State of the Country considered, when such a Force is drawn from it, as will enable us to assist the Prince.

3dly, How to satisfy the Prince's Party, few of whom will be induced to follow him.

4thly, How an immediate Sum of Money is to be found, that will give us enough to supply the Army on the Coast, the Payment of our Troops here, and a Present to the Prince.

5thly, Are we to inform the Nabob, before the Negotiation is begun, of what our Demands are to be, or is he to receive them afterwards, as Orders from his King, when we have declared him such? If the latter, Is there no Danger of his refusing to comply with them? and if he does, How are we to manage? If the former, Will it not much increase the Difficulty of gaining his Consent?

moved, by the March of the Shazaddah, to the Northward.

Consequently those which we can prevail on to take Part with us in this Project, and to assist us in bringing the Nabob into it, will be more ready to advance Money, upon the Promise of holding the principal Employments.

And as on both Sides there must be some Kind of Force or Violence exerted over the Nabob's Inclinations, it may be done with a better Grace, as well as more Effect, by Means of Orders from the Prince.

With regard to our Forces and the Disposition of them, with respect to the Security of the Company's Settlements here, it must be considered that in both Cases our Troops must be divided:—At *Patna* they are more at Hand to be called to join us in case of Necessity; but yet so distant, that probably the threatened Danger would be upon us before they could arrive, and the Road would be open for the Shazaddah to follow immediately; and after having taken Possession of the most valuable Parts of the Province, to join our Enemies, which would make our Situation even worse than before.

The Committee therefore are of Opinion, all Circumstances considered, that the Settlements here will be more secure with the Forces that will remain here, if by joining our Army to the Shazaddah, and marching with him to the Northward, we can put an End to all the Inland Troubles here, than in the present Disposition of keeping that Army at *Patna*, to make Head against the Shazaddah, especially if we can procure such Terms as will enable us to assemble on any Occasion a large Country Force to co-operate with us here; and such Terms, we doubt not, the Shazaddah will immediately offer.

Resolved therefore unanimously, *An Alliance with the Shazaddah resolved on.* That the entering into an Alliance with the Shazaddah, is a necessary and expedient Measure.—The President is accordingly desired to press *Cosim Ally Cawn* on the Subject of our Expenses, and our great Difficulties for Money, so as to draw from him some Proposal of Means for removing those Difficulties; by which probably we may be able to form a Judgment, whether he might not be brought to join in this Negotiation, and in procuring the Nabob's Consent. There is another Person here, *Roydullah*, who has been long under our Protection; and whose Attachment to the Company is not to be doubted: Through him it is thought this Intention may best be opened to the Shazaddah; but as an Interview between him and the President at this Time, might look suspicious, and give an Alarm to the Nabob, *Mr. Holwell* is desired to open the Affair to him, and take his Advice how best to manage.

*Henry Vansittart,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*  
*J. Z. Holwell.*

*Fort William, September the 16th, 1760.*

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Harry Vansittart*, Esquire, President.

*Col. Cauland.*

*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*

*J. Z. Holwell,* } Esquires.

*W<sup>m</sup> McGwire,*

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 15th Instant.

*The Governor's Report of his Conversation with Cosim Ally Cawn.*

The President acquaints the Committee, that in a long Conversation with *Cosim Ally Cawn*, he had last Night with *Cosim Ally Cawn*, he had an Opportunity of making some Progress towards the Discoveries requisite for carrying on the Negotiation proposed Yesterday:—That without letting him know any Thing of our Design, he had led him to make such Declarations of his Desire to have the Rule over the Nabob, and the general Management of the Affairs of the Province, as amount almost to a Proof of his Readiness to act the Part intended for him.

After telling him much of our Regard, and of our Opinion of him as the fittest Person for conducting the great Affairs of the *Bengal* Government, I began to make him strong Representations on the Subject of the Company's Expenses: That the immediate Charges of the Army exceeded far the Sum assigned for that Purpose; which Sum also was not regularly paid, there being Three or Four Months Arrears:—That besides this, he could not but be sensible how much the Company gave up in other Parts, for the sake of providing for the Security of *Bengal*, withdrawing their Forces from the *Deccan* and from *Madras*, and sending continually fresh Supplies from *Europe*. I represented to him further the great Loss the Company had suffered by the long Continuance of the present War with the Shazaddah; and how much it was to be wished, for the general Benefit, that an End could be put to it, so as to enable the Nabob to reduce his Expenses, and collect his full Revenues, of which a great Part is now lost by the Ravages of the Enemy, particularly the whole Produce of the *Patna* Province.

In Answer to this, *Cosim Ally Cawn* replied, That he has it not at present in his Power to provide in a proper Manner for the Supply of the Company:—That if we could undertake to give him the general Management of the Country, by taking it out of the Hands of those who are now intrusted with it by the Nabob, he would then make such Assignments in Favour of the Company, as should be perfectly to our Satisfaction.—At the same Time he insinuated, that this would undoubtedly meet with Opposition at *Muxadavad*, and at first prove very disagreeable to the Nabob himself: For which Reason it would be quite necessary to have a Force at Hand to support him; by which being enabled to over-rule the present evil Counsellors of the Nabob, he could answer for bringing the Nabob himself into such Terms as shall be agreed on here.—With respect to the Shazaddah, he did not seem to have any Notion of offering him Peace; but said, he should be able to keep up a sufficient Force to frustrate any future Attempts on this Province: The President thinking this a sufficient Progress for the first Conference, did not make him acquainted with our intended Negotiation with the Shazaddah, and which he imagines may better be opened to him by one of his old Confidants: *Cosim Ally Cawn* professed a Regard for *Roydullah*, and a Desire to see him; but as it was thought such an Interview could not be brought about with Secrecy; and if known, would give an Alarm to the Nabob; it was therefore determined to confide in *Cosim Ally Cawn*, as the fittest Person to make known our whole Plan to *Cosim Ally Cawn*.

*Mr. Holwell's Report.* *Mr. Holwell* acquaints the Committee, That agreeable to their Resolution of Yesterday, he had last Night a Conference with *Rajah Roydullah*, who received the Overture with much Satisfaction, and approved in general of the Plan; but thought there was some Objection to the proposed Manner of addressing the Prince, as it would cause much unnecessary Delay, which for many obvious Reasons should be avoided, and would not give him the Weight necessary on this Occasion, to obtain an immediate Stop being put to the Prince's Operations: That he thought our waiting for an Overture from him was too nice a Punctilio at this Juncture, because he knows the Prince is in such a Situation, as will not permit his hesitating to accept any Terms we offer. He thinks nothing can prevent or delay his immediate Concession to all



we ask, but the Article of confirming *Meer Jaffer Ally Cawn*, not only on Account of his personal Retirement, but as it is contrary to the Laws and Rules of the Empire, the appointing a Seyd to a Subahdary: Therefore says, we had better demand Sunnods at once; that the Power of Subahdarry, Buggerrea, and Dewannee, be lodged in the *English* Company; and then we may confirm *Meer Jaffer Ally Cawn* ourselves, if we think he deserves it.—That there is no Occasion to stipulate for particular Lands for the Maintenance of the Troops and Ordnance, as the Jag-giers of a Hof, a Hazzare, are always set apart for that Purpose.—He requests, he may not be thought of for the Post of Roy Rayen, but that he may be favoured with that of the Buxcys Neabut under the Company. He thinks he shall be able, without much Difficulty, to conciliate Matters with *Comgar Cawn*, *Bulwanfing*, and the other Rajahs of the Prince's Party, as they are most of them his Friends. He assures the Committee, he highly approves of the intended Promotion of *Meer Cuffim Ally Cawn* to the Dewannee, and will most readily co-operate with him in all Matters, conducive to the Completion of our Plan, as the only possible Means left to recover the Peace and flourishing State of the Provinces, and revive the Company's Trade and Influence.

Henry Vanfittart.

W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner.

J. Z. Howell.

Fort William, 24th October 1760.

At a Select Committee,

P R E S E N T,

William Ellis, Esquire, President,  
William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire,  
William McGuire, Esquire.

Received the following Letter from the President, and Colonel Caillaud, dated at *Miradbag* the 21st Instant,

Gentlemen,

The Governor wrote you Yesterday of the Affairs here being settled to the Company's Advantage: We shall now have the Honour to acquaint you of the Steps by which we advanced to this Point of Success.

The Nabob's Visit to the Governor at *Cossimbuzar*, the 15th of the Month, as well as that we paid him the next Day in Return, passed only in general Conversation. The 18th, he came here to talk upon Business: In order to give him a more clear and full View of the bad Management of his Ministers, by which his own Affairs as well as the Company's are reduced to so dangerous a State, and the Inhabitants in general to Want and Misery; we had prepared Three Letters, which after a short and friendly Introduction, the Governor delivered to him, and of which Translations are hereunto annexed, under N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, and 3.

The Nabob seemed much affected by the Perusal of the Letters, but endeavoured more to put an End to the Conference than to propose a Remedy to the Evils: We, however, prevailed on him to send for his Dinner to *Moradbag*, and in a Manner insisted on his coming to some Determination for the immediate Reform of his Government. At length he confessed himself, through Age and Grief, incapable of struggling against so many Difficulties: He desired Time to consult with his Friends. We told him the Men with whom he had lately advised were not his Friends, but his greatest Enemies; that his returning again in the midst of them, would only be the Means of augmenting his Difficulties; that he had much better take the Assistance of one from among his Relations, on whose true Attachment and Fidelity he might more safely rely; he named

Five or Six, and among them, *Cassim Aly Khan*. We asked him which of that Number was the most proper to assist him in his present Exigencies: He replied, without any Hesitation, That *Kassim Aly Khan* was the most proper; nevertheless, it was with the utmost Difficulty we could prevail on him to send for him; and so very late, that before *Kassim Aly Khan* could arrive, the old Nabob was so extremely fatigued, and in such a State of Anxiety, that we could not refuse his Return Home to take his Rest. We were convinced indeed, that it would be to no Purpose to keep him; for such was the Jealousy he discovered with respect to *Kassim Aly Khan*, that we saw he never would consent, without some Sort of Force, to give the other the Means of restoring Order to his Affairs. An Hour or two after the Nabob's Departure, *Kassim Aly Khan* arrived, and seemed to be extremely apprehensive, that the Nabob, instead of trusting him with the Management of Affairs, would endeavour by some Means or other to get rid of him. We agreed therefore in Opinion with him, that he should not go to the Nabob's Houle, until Measures were taken for his Security: We resolved however, to give the Nabob the next Day (the 19th) to reflect upon the Letters before mentioned, in Hopes he would propose some Means of Regulation. We heard nothing from him all Day, but found by our Intelligence, that he had been in Council with his old Advisers, *Koneram*, *Moonital*, and *Checon*, whose Advice, we were sure, would be contrary to the Welfare of the Country in general, and that of the Company in particular. We determined therefore to act immediately upon the Nabob's Fears. There could not be a better Opportunity, than the Night of the Nineteenth afforded, it being the Conclusion of the *Gento* Feast, when all the principal People of that Cast would be pretty well fatigued with their Ceremonies. We determined therefore, that Colonel Caillaud, with the Two Companies of Military, and Six Companies of *Seapoys*, should cross the River between Three and Four in the Morning, and having joined *Kassim Aly Khan* and his People, march to the Nabob's Palace, and surround it just at Day-break: Being extremely desirous of preventing any Disturbance or Bloodshed, the Governor wrote a Letter to the Nabob (the Translation of which is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 4) and delivered it to the Colonel, to send in to him at such Time as he should think most expedient: Measures were at the same Time taken for seizing the Persons of *Koneram*, *Moonital*, and *Checon*; our Intention being only to remove those Three unworthy Ministers, and place *Kassim Aly Khan* in the full Management of all the Affairs, in Quality of Deputy and Successor to the Nabob.—The Governor remained at *Moradbag*, in Readiness to pay a Visit of Congratulation to the Durbar, as soon as the Point should be settled.

The necessary Preparations being accordingly made with all Care and Secrecy possible, the Colonel embarked with the Troops, joined *Kassim Aly Khan* without the least Alarm, and marched into the Court Yard of the Palace, just at the proper Instant: The Gates of the Inner Court being shut, the Colonel formed his Men without, and then sent the Governor's Letter to the Nabob, who was at first in a great Rage, and long threatened he would make what Resistance he could, and take his Fate. The Colonel forbore all Hostilities; and several Messages passed by the Means of Mr. *Hosings* and Mr. *Lesbington*, whose Services on this Occasion deserve Notice.—The Affair remained in this doubtful State about Two Hours; when the Nabob finding his persisting was to no Purpos, sent a Message to *Kassim Aly Khan*, informing him, he was ready to send him the Scals, and all the Ensigns of Dignity, and to order the Nobit to be struck up in his Name; provided he would agree to take the whole Charge of the Government upon him, to discharge all the Arrears due to the Troops, to pay the usual Revenues to the King,

to save his Life and his Honour, and give him an Allowance sufficient for his Maintenance: All these Conditions being agreed to, *Kasim Aly Khan* was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring, That he depended on him for his Life; and the Troops then took Possession of all the Gates, and Notice was sent to the Governor, who came immediately; and the old Nabob met him in the Gateway, asking, If his Person was safe, which seemed now to be all his Concern. The Governor told him, not only his Person was safe, but his Government too if he pleased, of which it never was intended to deprive him: The Nabob answered, That he had nothing more to busy him at the City; that he should be in continual Danger from *Kasim Aly Khan*; and that if he was permitted to go and live in *Calcutta*, he should be extremely happy and contented. Though we could not help lamenting his sudden Fall, we were not sorry for this Proposal, as Affairs will doubtless be better managed without him, and the Advantages stipulated for the Company be obtained without the least Difficulty or Delay. *Kasim Aly Khan* was accordingly seated on the Throne, and we paid him our Congratulations in the usual Form: All the Jemindars, Merchants, and others, residing in the City, came immediately, and made their Acknowledgements to the new Subah; and in the Evening every Thing was as perfectly quiet, as if there had been no Change. The People in general seem much pleased with this Revolution, and we are particularly happy in its being brought about without the least Disturbance in the Town, or a Drop of Blood spilt.

The Advantages to the Company are great indeed. —The Firmannds for the Countries of *Burdwan*, and *Midnapore*, and *Chittagang*, we shall receive immediately, as well as that for Half of the Chunam already produced at *Sikot* — A very severe Order has already been issued, forbidding all the Shrafs and Merchants to refuse the *Calcutta* Siccas, or to ask any Batta on them. A Supply of Money will be sent with the Colonel for the Payment of the Troops at *Patna*, and we have even some Hopes of obtaining Three or Four Lacks besides to send down to *Calcutta*, to help out the Company in their present Occasions there, and at *Madras*. — The former Balance is to be paid Monthly, according to the old Nabob's Kistbundy.

We are the more pleased with this fortunate Event at this Time, when the Approach of Peace in *Europe* gives us Reason to fear the other *European* Nations will find Leisure to disturb us here. We shall now have strong Resources within ourselves, and an Ally whose Attachment to the Company may be relied on. The old Nabob could by no Means be depended on for such an Occasion; both his Means and Desire of supporting us were very uncertain, as his Behaviour in the *Dutch* Troubles evinced.

The old Nabob did not think himself safe even for one Night in the City: *Kasim Aly Khan* supplied him with Boats, and gave him Leave to take away as many of his Women as he desired, and a reasonable Quantity of Cloaths and Jewels. We furnished him with a strong Escort of *Europeans* and *Sepoys*, and intended to lodge him at *Iltergil*, but he would not trust himself there, and begged he might sleep in his Boats close to *Moradbag*, which he did accordingly. We shall take Care that *Kasim Aly Khan* provides every Thing that is convenient and handsome for himself and his Women, and settle upon him a sufficient Allowance for his Maintenance, and then dispatch him with a strong Escort to *Calcutta*. You will please to provide Two Houses for his Reception; there are Two belonging to *Soobram By-Jack* and *Rauiberry Seat*, which the Ray Rayen occupied, when he was in *Calcutta*; if these can be had, we judge they will answer very well.

His legitimate Wife, called *The Begum*, Mother of the deceased Chuta Nabob, and of *Kasim Aly Khan's* Wife, refused to accompany the old Nabob, with whom she says he has not been in good Harmony for a long Time past; that she is extremely glad the Government is put into such good Hands; and that she shall live much happier with her Daughter and Son-in-law.

The old Nabob is now pretty easy, and seems to be reconciled to the Loss of a Power which he owns to have been rather a Burthen than a Pleasure, and too much for his Abilities to manage, since the Death of his Son; and the Enjoyment of the rest of his Days in Security, under the *English* Protection, seems to be the chief Object of his Wishes.

Nº 1. Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob *Jaffer Aly Khan* by the Governor, dated 18th October 1760.

When I was at *Madras*, Colonel *Clive* frequently wrote to me on the State of Affairs in this Country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this Country to return to *Europe*, he would procure my Appointment to the Government. The Friendship and Connections between your Excellency and the Colonel are well known to me, and I hoped to have found all Affairs carried on intirely according to the Treaty; but what I observed upon my Arrival, I shall now lay before you particularly.

First, The *English* Forces who are employed in your Service, and in the Support of your Government at *Azimabad*, are kept without their Pay.

Secondly, The Forces of the *Sircar*, who are stationed in those Parts, are discontented, and dissatisfied to the Service, for Want of Pay.

Thirdly, The *Sepoys* at *Muxadabad* had surmounded the Palace in a tumultuous Manner for the Arrears of their Pay, and endangered your Life: How deeply I was affected cannot be expressed; God is Witness of what I felt upon that Occasion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived, that the Ministers of this Court, from their Covetousness and base Dispositions, had set aside all Justice, were plundering the Poor without Cause, and doing what they pleased, nor even withholding their Hands from the Lives of the People, destroying the Subjects, and bringing Ruin and Desolation on the Country.

Fifthly, The Scarcity of Provisions, &c. is so great as was never before known in this Country; insomuch that the People of all Degrees are in the greatest Distress. — This can be owing to no other Cause, than the bad Management of your Ministers.

Sixthly, Formerly, at the Desire of the *English* Company, a Mint was established in *Calcutta*, and it was your Order, that the Siccas of *Calcutta*, of the same Weight and Fineness with the Siccas of *Muxadabad*, should pass for equal Value. Notwithstanding your Perwannah for enforcing this Grant, the Officers of the King's Province have not suffered them to pass, but, contrary to your Orders, require and insist on a Batta on the Siccas.

Seventhly, The War with the Shazadah still continues: Notwithstanding the Sums expended, and the Endeavours of the *English* Forces, this Affair is yet no nearer to a Conclusion than the first Day; excepting the Kella of *Azimabad*, no Part of the Subahship of *Patna* remains in your Possession; all the Lands and Villages are in a State of Ruin; and the Zemindars in every Place are ready to join the Shazadah's Army, as appears from the Letter to me to this Purpose from *Berborn*. — From these Circumstances, it evidently appears to me, that all these Difficulties came to pass after the

the Death of your Son the late Chuta Nabob; from which Time, the Ministers of the Sircar, regarding only their own Interest, neglect the Good of the Country, and the Welfare of the Subjects, and employ themselves in oppressing the Poor, in Rapine, Violence, Injustice, and Iniquity.—When I saw the Affairs of the Sircar in the Hands of such faithless and unworthy Men, and every Thing tending still farther to Ruin, I lifted up my Eyes to Heaven, and bewailed my strange Fate, that Providence should send me into this Country at such a Time, and in the Midst of such Calamities; when the Dignity of the Nabob, the Reputation of the Company, and the Prosperity of the Country, are almost expired. After long Consideration, I concluded I would make one vigorous Trial immediately to remedy all these Evils, hoping by God's Assistance to surmount all Difficulties: For this Reason, I am come with great Joy into your Prefence, and am happy in paying you my Respects.

Nº 2. Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob *Jaffier Aly Khan* by the Governor, dated the 18th October.

The Ministers that are about your Person, and who transact your Business, are People that are ever wavering and changeable in their Councils, as is evident from the *Perwannahs* you frequently sent me, complaining of the bad Conduct and wicked Intentions of *Maba Rajabullab*, insinuating upon the being recalled by some Means or other. The Colonel considering the Situation of Affairs at that Time, recommended *Maba Rajabullab* to you, and you sent me a Copy of it in a Letter, which you did me the Honour to write to me, and said, That you was surprised that the Colonel would recommend a Man so very unfit for Business. You also sent me Word by the Nabob *Kasim Aly Khan* and the Rayraen, that the Business of the most Consequence was to get *Maba Rajabullab* down from *Patna*: I therefore, agreeable to your Desire, wrote to Mr. *Amvatt* to send him down; God only knows what Council your Ministers gave, that the *Perwannah* was deferred being sent; but that is the true Cause of the Troubles now at *Patna*: It is a known Maxim, that a Government, where the Councils change every Day, cannot be well regulated.

Nº 3. Translation of a Letter presented to the Nabob *Jaffier Aly Khan*, by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

The important Affairs, for the Regulation of which I have waited on you, as submitted to your Consideration in a separate Address, containing Seven Articles; now that I am here, is the Time for opening the Door of the Difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the Key of your enlightened Wisdom. If this Opportunity be lost, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together so conveniently; besides the Particulars which I have taken Notice of, and the Payment of Arrears due to the *English* Troops, and those of the Sircar, it is necessary to make a large Provision for future Exigencies.—You have already given in Pledge, Jewels for a large Amount, to be discharged by different Payments agreed and signed to, in your own Hand: How this Sum is to be paid, unless the Country is settled, I don't perceive: The Pay allowed for the *English* Army has been limited to One Lack of Rupees per Month. As the Disturbances in the Country have increased every Day, for that Reason large Sums have been expended in bringing Soldiers from *Europe* and *Madras*, and in raising *Sepoys*: On this Account a Lack of Rupees is by no Means sufficient. Let your Excellency duly reflect, that your own *Sepoys*, in the Time of Extremity, preferring their own Safety,

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have joined with the Forces of the Enemy; and the *English* Forces, devoted entirely to your Service, and the Destruction of your Enemies, never were guilty of such a Conduct, nor ever will; and, by the Blessing of God, wherever the *English* Standard has been fixed they have always proved victorious: Upon this Account it is by no Means becoming your Wisdom to neglect such brave Men, or to deny them their due Rewards. It is necessary, that for this Business your Excellency grant the Company some certain Lands, sufficient for the Disbursement of the Pay of the Troops, the Expenses of the Artillery, and the Provisions of Stores, &c. that, without any Trouble to yourself, all their Charges may be defrayed, from the Produce of these Lands, and our Arms always ready to be employed in your Service; otherwise I must submit to Necessity. My Concern for my Honour will not suffer me to be unmoved at the Company's Loss; but I must seek some Expedient for promoting the Interest of the Company, and removing the Evils they are oppressed with; and those Expedients must be adopted: But if your Affliction for the Death of your Son has taken that Hold upon your Mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of such great Difficulties, it is proper that you appoint some capable Person from amongst your Children, in the Place and Dignity of your said Son, the Nabob *Nasir ool Moolk*, who may take Charge of all these Affairs, regulate the Business of the Country, and remove all these Difficulties; that your Excellency, freed from all the Troubles and Fatigues of the Transactions, may remain without Care, and the Shadow of your Protection overspread the Whole.

Nº 4. Translation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob, dated 19th October, at Night.

I have been waiting all this Day in Expectation that you would have settled some of the weighty and urgent Affairs, upon which I Yesterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your Determination; but you have not favoured me with any Answer concerning them; from hence it plainly appears, that as long as those evil Counsellors remain about your Person, whatsoever I may represent to you for your Prosperity and Welfare, and the Good of this Country, will have no Effect. The Folly of these People will soon deprive you of your Government, and prove the Ruin, likewise, of the Company's Affairs: I have judged it improper, that such Evils and Disgrace should be brought upon us, for the Sake of Two or Three Men; for this Reason I have sent Colonel *Caillaud*, with Forces to wait upon you; when the said Colonel arrives, he will expel those bad Counsellors, and place your Affairs in a proper State; I will shortly follow. Let not your Excellency be under any Apprehensions, but cheerfully receive the Colonel; and give Orders to your Men, that they make no Disturbances, nor raise Tumults in the City. I solemnly declare that I have no other View but your Good and Welfare. Look upon me as your sincere Well-wisher, and remain satisfied.

Agreed, We write the following Letter to the President, and Colonel *Caillaud*.

Gentlemen,

We have been honoured with your Favour of the 21st, and One from the President of the 20th Instant, by which we have been informed of the great Success that has attended your Operations: We must congratulate you on your having amply effected the intended Purposes, without the Effusion of Blood, or any Disturbance; and are highly pleased to find the Nabob so well reconciled to his present Situation. We doubt not but what has been so well begun, will be concluded for

the Benefit and Advantage of the Company; and that the Affairs of the Government will, in future, be put on a secure and proper Footing.

We have given the necessary Directions for the Reception and Accommodation of the old Nabob, whenever he arrives in *Calcutta*.

A few Days, we flatter ourselves, will bring this Matter to a Conclusion; and that we shall, very shortly, have the Pleasure of the Governor's Presence with us.

W. Ellis.  
W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner.

Fort William, 8th November 1760.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanstuart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Ellis*, Esquire,  
*William B. Sumner*, Esquire,  
*Harry Verelst*, Esquire,  
*Harry Smyth*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Waller*, Esquire,  
*Culling Smith*, Esquire,  
*Mr. McGwire*, indisposed.

Mr. Verelst delivers in his Opinion, upon the Measures lately taken by the Select Committee, as follows:

Mr. Verelst begs Leave to observe, That the Board have been, till now, kept entirely ignorant of the Proceedings of the Select Committee, relating to the present Revolution, and their Motives for it; he therefore cannot pretend to judge how far such a Step was necessary; but thinks, that an Affair of such immediate Consequence to the Company's Estates in these Parts, the most mature Consideration of the whole Board should have been first had; that a Treaty, executed in the most solemn Manner, subsisted between *Meer Jaffer*, and us; the most faithful Adherence to which, as well as all other our Engagements, has preserved that Influence and Power we have maintained ever since the Re-capture of *Calcutta*; a Steadiness to which Treaty made the *British* admired, nay even courted, by every Prince throughout those Provinces, and has ever been fatal to the Prince apparent of the Empire, and many other Disturbers, who have hitherto weakly endeavoured to engage us to break through those solemn Ties we were sworn to. As this sudden Change must alarm every one, to find us so unexpectedly breaking through all our Engagements, which were so public, reputable, and to the Honour of the Nation, he cannot be blamed, as a Member of this Board, for expressing his Disatisfaction, at being made a Cypher of, in so critical a Concern.

Mr. Verelst's Opinion the same as Mr. Verelst's.

Mr. Smyth begs Leave to observe, he is of the same Opinion with Mr. Verelst.

The President begs Leave to remark upon the foregoing Minutes, That though Mr. Verelst and Mr. Smyth might, without the least Presumption, think that they, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Committee, ought to have been consulted upon an Affair of so much Importance, before it was carried into Execution, yet, their venturing to condemn, or approve, before they know the Nature of the Engagements entered into, the Reason why, or the Manner in which, the Whole was conducted, seems rather premature, especially as they had an Opportunity of so soon making themselves competent Judges; the Whole being now ordered to be laid before the Board, as mentioned in the former Part of these Minutes: The Reason why the whole Council was not before informed, was, that it was an Affair that absolutely required Secrecy, and it is

expressly for the Conduct of such Affairs, that the honourable the Court of Directors has thought proper to appoint a Select Committee: To the Secrecy which was observed, may, in great Measure be attributed the speedy and easy Success which attended the Execution, and the preventing all Disturbance and Loss of Blood.

Fort William, 10th November 1760.

Monday.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanstuart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Ellis*, Esquire,  
*William B. Sumner*, Esquire,  
*William McGwire*, Esquire,  
*Harry Verelst*, Esquire,  
*Harry Smyth*, Esquire.

A Memorial setting forth the Causes of the late Change in the Subahship of Bengal.

The Nabob, *Jaffer Allee Cawn*, was of a Temper extremely tyrannical and avaricious, at the same Time very indolent; and the People about him, being either abject Slaves and Flatterers, or else the base Instruments of his Vices; there was no Chance of having the Affairs of the Government properly conducted, but by their Removal: He attributed all the ill Success of his Affairs to imaginary Plots and Contrivances, and sacrificed Lives, without Mercy, to the Excess of his Jealousy: Numberless are the Instances of Men, of all Degrees, whose Blood he has spilt without the least assigned Reason. To learn the Names and Circumstances of all these Sufferers, would be a Work of Time; but some of the most striking Examples are these following:

*Coja Huddoe*, the first Buxey, first banished for a pretended Conspiracy against the Nabob's Life, and afterwards cut off at *Shabbad*, in his March out of the Province.

*Mir Cazim*, the second Buxey, invited by the Chuta Nabob, to his House, and after having received from him unusual Marks of Affection, assassinated at the Gates of the Palace.

*Abdel Olib Cawn*, murdered at the *Rumna*, in the Month of March 1760, by some of the Hircarras belonging to *Checon*, who waylaid him for that Purpose, by the Nabob's Orders.

*Yar Mahmud*, formerly in great Favour with the Nabob, *Serajab Dowla*, and since Droga of the Emarrut, slain in the Presence of the Chuta Nabob, in the Month of April 1760.

*Gassela Begum*, Widow of the Nabob, *Sheehmut Jung*;

*Omna Begum*, Mother to the Nabob, *Serajab Dowla*;

*Muzzado Dowla*, the Son of *Padsha Cooly Cawn*, adopted by *Sheehmut Jung*;

*Lufen Nissa Begum*, Widow of the Nabob *Serajab Dowla*;

Her Infant, Daughter of *Serajab Dowla*.

The Five unhappy Sufferers, mentioned last, perished all in one Night at *Dacca*, about the Month of June 1760; where they had been detained Prisoners since the Accession of *Jaffer Allee Cawn* to the Subahship; a *Perwanaah* was sent to *Jaffer Cawn*, the Naib of *Dacca*, to put to Death all the Survivors of the Family, of the Nabobs, *Aliverdee Cawn*, *Sheehmut Jung*, and *Serajab Dowla*; but upon his declining to obey so cruel an Order, the Messenger, who had private Instructions to execute this Tragedy, in case of the other's Refusal, took them from the Place of their Confinement; and having carried them out at Midnight upon the River, massacred and drowned them, with about 20

Women

Women of inferior Note, and Attendants. What became of *Alivodas Cawn's* Widow is uncertain; it being reported by many, that she escaped the Fate of the rest of her Family.

Executions of this Kind had made the Nabob the Dread, or the Detestation of all good Men; and he necessarily became a Prey to the People of mean Extraction, and abject Dispositions; who, knowing that a Government so managed could not stand long, fought only to make themselves rich, by Oppressions of all Sorts, upon the Country, and Inhabitants. To the heavy Taxes laid by them on the Markets, is ascribed the present unusual Scarcity and Dearness of Provisions at the City, the Capital of a Country, once esteemed the most plentiful in the World.

The Persons who have had the chief Shares in this bad Management, are *Kenooram, Manilal, and Checon*, all of low Birth; and the Two first, the menial Servants of *Jaffer Allee Cawn*, before he came to the Subahship: These manage, so as to engage him continually in idle or vicious Amusements; keeping him, by that Means, in utter Ignorance of his Affairs, and in a State of Indifference as to their Success. No Money came into his Treasury at the same Time: Nothing was paid to his Army; insomuch that his Troops mutinied, and surrounded his Palace in a tumultuous Manner, threatening to take away his Life; which they would certainly have done, had not his Son-in-Law, the present Nabob, *Cassim Allee Cawn*, become a Mediator, and paid them a very large Sum out of his own Treasury: This happened last June, and if the imminent Danger, which his Person was threatened on this Occasion, awakened him for a Moment, no sooner was it removed again to a Distance, than he fell back into the Lethargy which had so long possessed him. The same unworthy Ministers remained still his only Counsellors, and continued in the Management of his Affairs to the last Day of his Administration, which he left in so confused and impoverished a State, that in all human Appearance, another Month could hardly have run through before he would have been cut off by his own *Sepoys*, and the City become a Scene of Plunder and Disorder; the Nabob having made no further Provision for the Payment of the long Arrears due to his People, after *Cassim Allee Cawn* had freed him from his former Extremity. This Danger he could not but foresee, and more than once declared his Apprehensions, yet had not the Power to exert the necessary Means for preventing it, but sunk the deeper into Dejection.

Besides this intestine Danger to which the Government was exposed, Two Armies were in the Field, and waiting only the fair Weather to advance, the Shazadda towards *Patna*, and the *Berboom* Rajah towards *Meerabad*, the Capital.—The Rajahs of *Bissimpoor Ramgur*, and the other Countries bordering upon the Mountains, were ready to shake off their Dependence, and had already afforded considerable Supplies to the *Berboom* Rajah; the Rajah of *Currukeepoor* had committed open Hostilities, and taken Possession of all the Country about *Bogteepoor*, which entirely stopped the Communication between the two Provinces on that Side of the River. In a Word, the whole Country seemed ripe for an universal Revolt, whose Parts only excepted, whose natural Weakness, or Neighbourhood with the City, intimidated them from taking up Arms. To encounter all these Difficulties, there was nothing but Troops without Pay, from whom therefore no great Efforts could be expected; of this a very recent Instance occurs in the Detachment which was ordered against the *Berboom* Rajah, Three Months before the Nabob's Abdication, but never advanced more than Three Cose from the City; in which Situation they continued upon my Arrival there.

All who are now in *Bengal*, and acquainted with the Transactions of the Government, will bear Witness, that

this is a true Description of Facts; and all who are convinced of the Facts, will certainly agree, that Affairs were at an Extremity no longer to be neglected, without manifest Danger of having the Province over-run, and the Trade entirely ruined: I was resolved therefore to use my utmost Endeavours to get these bad Ministers removed; and judging it might be difficult to prevail on the Nabob to part with his Favourites without some Degree of Violence, I brought with me a Detachment of *Europeans and Sepoys*, under Pretence of sending them with Colonel *Caillaud*, to reinforce the Army at *Patna*.

I arrived with the Colonel at *Cossimbuzar*, the 14th of October, and the next Day the Nabob paid us a Visit; on the 16th we went to the City, and returned the Visit; on the 18th, the Nabob came to *Moradbag*, by Appointment, to talk upon Business: In the Conversation which I had with him in the Two former Meetings, I had taken Occasion to represent to him in general Terms, the bad Management of his Ministers, the Miseries and universal Disaffection of the Country, and the desperate State of his, as well as the Company's, Affairs: In order to give him a more full and clear View of the Evils brought on through the Weakness of his Administration, and to point out the Means of their Removal, I had prepared Three Letters, which, after a short and friendly Introduction, I delivered to him, of which Translations are hereunto annexed, under N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, and 3.

The Nabob seemed much affected by the Perusal of the Letters, but endeavoured more to put an End to the Conference than to propose a Remedy to the Evils. I however prevailed on him to send for his Dinner to *Moradbag*, and in a Manner insisted on his coming to some Determination for the immediate Reform of the Government; at length he confessed himself, through Age, and Grief for the late Loss of his Son, incapable alone of struggling against so many Difficulties.—He desired he might have Time to consult with his Friends; I told him the Men, with whom he had lately advised, were not his Friends, but his greatest Enemies; that his returning again in the Midst of them would only be the Means of augmenting his Difficulties; that he had much better take the Assistance of one from amongst his Relations, on whose true Attachment and Fidelity he might more safely rely: He named Five or Six, and amongst them *Cassim Allee Cawn*: I asked him which of that Number was most fit to assist him in his present Exigencies; he replied, without Hesitation, That *Cassim Allee Cawn* was the most proper; nevertheless it was with the utmost Difficulty I could prevail on him to send for him, and so very late, that before *Cassim Allee Cawn* could arrive, the old Nabob was so extremely fatigued, and in such a State of Anxiety, that I could not refuse his Return Home to take his Rest. I was convinced indeed that it was to no Purpose to detain him; for such was the Jealousy he discovered with respect to *Cassim Allee Cawn*, that I saw he never would consent, without some Sort of Force, to give the other the Means of restoring Order to his Affairs: An Hour or Two after the Nabob's Departure, *Cassim Allee Cawn* arrived, and seemed to be extremely apprehensive that the Nabob, instead of trusting him with the Management of his Affairs, would endeavour by some Means or other to get rid of him; I agreed therefore in Opinion with him, that he should not go to the Nabob's House until Measures were taken for his Security: We resolved however to give the Nabob the next Day (the 19th) to reflect upon the Letters before-mentioned, in Hopes that he would propose some Measures of Regulation.—I heard nothing from him all Day, but found by my Intelligence, that he had been in Council with his old Advisers *Kenooram, Manilal, and Checon*, whose Advice I was sure would be contrary to the Welfare of the Country in general, and that of the Company in particular. I determined therefore to act immediately on the Nabob's Fears:

Fears : There could not be a better Opportunity than that the Night of the 19th afforded, it being the Conclusion of the *Gensoo* Feast, when all the principal People of that *Cait* would be pretty well fatigued with their Ceremonies ; accordingly I agreed with Colonel *Caillaud* that he should cross the River with the Detachment between Three and Four in the Morning, and having joined *Coffin Allee Cawn*, and his People, march to the Nabob's Palace, and surround it just at Day-break : Being extremely desirous to prevent any Disturbance or Bloodshed, I wrote a Letter to the Nabob, a Translation of which is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 4, and delivered it to the Colonel, to send in to him at such a Time as he should think most expedient : Measures were taken at the same Time for seizing the Persons of *Keenooram*, *Manilol*, and *Checoo* ; my Intention being only to remove those Three unworthy Ministers, and place *Coffin Allee Cawn* in the full Management of all the Affairs, in Quality of Deputy and Successor to the Nabob : The necessary Preparations being accordingly made, with all the Care and Secrecy possible, the Colonel embarked with the Troops, joined *Coffin Allee Cawn* without the least Alarm, and marched into the Court Yard of the Palace just at the proper Instant ; the Gates of the inner Court being shut, the Colonel formed his Men without, and sent my Letter to the Nabob, who was at first in a great Rage, and long threatened he would make what Resistance he could, and take his Fate : The Colonel forbore all Hostilities, and several Messages passed between him and the Nabob. The Affair remained in this doubtful State about Two Hours, when the Nabob finding his persisting was to no Purpose, sent a Message to *Coffin Allee Cawn*, informing him he was ready to send him the Seals, and all the Ensigns of Dignity, and to order the Nabob to be stuck up in his Name, provided he would agree to take the whole Charge of the Government upon him, to discharge all the Arrears due to the Troops, to pay the usual Revenues to the King, to save his Life and Honour, and give him an Allowance sufficient for his Maintenance. All these Conditions being agreed to, *Coffin Allee Cawn* was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring that he depended on him for his Life : The Troops then took Possession of all the Gates ; and Notice being sent to me, I immediately repaired to the Palace, and was met by the old Nabob in the Gateway, he asked if his Person was safe, which seemed now to be all his Concern ; I told him that not only his Person was safe, but his Government too, if he pleased, of which it was never intended to deprive him ; the Nabob answered, that he had no more Business at the City, that he should be in continual Danger from *Coffin Allee Cawn* ; and that if he was permitted to go and live in *Calcutta*, he should be extremely happy and contented. Though I could not help lamenting his sudden Fall, I was not sorry for this Proposal, as I knew Affairs would be much better managed without him ; and his retaining a Share of the Authority (however small) could not fail to cause such Perplexities as might prove, in so critical and dangerous a Juncture, of the worst Consequences to the Administration. *Coffin Allee Cawn* was accordingly seated on the Musnud, and I paid him my Congratulations in the usual Form ; all the Jemadars and Persons of Distinction at the City came immediately and made their Acknowledgements to the new Subah, and in the Evening every thing was as perfectly quiet as if there had been no Change ; the People in general seemed much pleased with this Revolution, which had this peculiar Felicity attending it, that it was brought about without the least Disturbance in Town, or a Drop of Blood spilt.

The Nabob did not think himself safe even for one Night in the City : *Coffin Allee Cawn* supplied him with Boats, and permitted him to take away as many of his Women as he desired (which he did to about the

Number of Sixty) with a reasonable Quantity of Jewels. I furnished him with a strong Escort of Europeans and *Sepoys*, and intended to lodge him at *Norajah*, but he would not trust himself there, and begged he might sleep in his Boats close to *Moradaburg*, which he accordingly did.—He continued at *Moradaburg* the next Day, and in the Evening I visited him with Colonel *Caillaud*.—He appeared then pretty easy, and reconciled to the Loss of a Power, which he owned to be rather a Burthen than a Pleasure, and too much for his Abilities to manage since the Death of his Son ; and the Enjoyment of the rest of his Days in Security under the English Protection seemed to be the chief Object of his Wishes.

On the Morning of the 22d, he set out for *Calcutta*, and arrived there the 29th. He was met by a Deputation from the Council, and treated with every Mark of Respect due to his former Dignity.

Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob  
*Jeffer Ally Cawn* by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

N<sup>o</sup> 1. When I was at *Madras*, Colonel *Clive* frequently wrote to me upon the State of the Affairs of this Country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this Country, to return to *Europe*, he would procure my Appointment to the Government. The Friendship and Connections between your Excellency and the Colonel, are well known to me ; and I hoped to have found all Affairs carried on entirely according to the Treaty ; but what I observed upon my Arrival, I shall now lay before you particularly.

First, The English Forces, who are employed in your Service, and in the Support of your Government at *Asimabad*\*, are kept without their Pay.

Secondly, The Forces of the Sircar†, who are stationed in those Parts, are discontented, and dissatisfied to the Service for Want of their Pay.

Thirdly, The *Sepoys* of *Murshudabad* had surrounded the Palace in a tumultuous Manner for the Arrears of their Pay, and endangered your Life : How deeply I was affected cannot be expressed ; God is Witness what I felt on that Occasion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived that the Ministers of this Court, from their covetous and base Dispositions, had set aside all Justice, were plundering the Poor without Cause, and doing what they pleased, nor even withholding their Hands from the Lives of the People, destroying the Subjects, and bringing Ruin and Desolation on the Country.

Fifthly, The Scarcity of Provisions, &c. is so great as was never before known in this Country, inasmuch that the People of all Degrees are in the greatest Distress : This can be owing to no other Cause but the bad Management of your Ministers.

Sixthly, Formerly, at the Desire of the English Company, a Mint was established in *Calcutta* ; and it was your Order that the Siccas of *Calcutta*, of the same Weight and Fineness with the Siccas of *Murshudabad*, should pass for equal Value ; notwithstanding your Perwannahs, for the enforcing of this Grant, the Officers of the King's Province have not suffered them to pass ; but, contrary to your Orders, require and insist on a Batta on the Siccas.

Seventhly, The War with the Shazadda still continues, notwithstanding the Sums expended, and the Endeavours of the English Forces, the Affair is yet no nearer to a Conclusion than the first Day, excepting the Kella‡ of *Asimabad*, no Part of the Subahship of *Patna* remains in your Possession ; all the Lands and Villages are in a State of Ruin, and the Zemindars, in every Place, are ready to join the Shazadda's Army, as

\* *Patna*.

† Government.

‡ Fort.

appears from the Letter wrote to me to this Purpose from *Beerboom*: From these Circumstances it evidently appears to me, that all these Difficulties came to pass after the Death of your Son, the late Chuta Nabob, from which Time the Ministers of the Sircar regarding only their own Interest, neglect the Good of the Country, and the Welfare of the Subjects, and employ themselves in oppressing the Poor, in Rapine, Violence, Injustice, and Iniquity. When I saw the Affairs of the Sircar in the Hands of such faithless and unworthy Men, and every Thing tending still farther to Ruin, I lifted up my Eyes to Heaven, and bewailed my strange Fate, that Providence should send me into this Country at such a Time, and in the Midst of such Calamities; when the Dignity of the Nabob, the Reputation of the Company, and the Prosperity of the Country, are almost expired. After long Consideration, I concluded that I would make one vigorous Trial immediately to remedy all these Evils, hoping, by God's Assistance, to surmount all Difficulties; for this Reason I am come with great Joy into your Presence, and am happy in paying you my Respects.

Translation of an Address presented to the Nabob Jaffer Ally Cawn by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

N<sup>o</sup> 2. The Ministers that are about your Person, and who transact your Business, are People that are ever wavering and changeable in their Councils, as is evident from the Perwannahs you frequently sent me; complaining of the bad Conduct and wicked Intentions of *Maba Rajabullub*, insinuating upon his being recalled by some Means or other. The Colonel, considering the Situation of Affairs at that Time, recommended *Maba Rajabullub* to you, and you sent me a Copy of it in a Letter, which you did me the Honour to write me, and said, you was surprised that the Colonel would recommend a Man so very unfit for every Business: You also sent me Word by the Nabob *Mahr Mahomed Cassim Cawn*, and the Roy Royan, that the Business of the most Consequence was to get *Maba Rajabullub* down from *Patna*. I therefore, agreeable to your Desire, wrote to Mr. *Anyatt*, to send him down: God only knows what Counsel your Ministers gave, that the Perwannah was deferred being sent; but that is the true Cause of the Troubles now at *Patna*. It is a known Maxim, that a Government, where the Councils change every Day, cannot be well regulated.

Translation of a Letter presented to the Nabob Jaffer Ally Cawn by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

N<sup>o</sup> 3. The important Affairs, for the Regulation of which I have waited upon you, are submitted to your Consideration in a separate Address, containing Seven Articles. Now that I am here, this is the Time for opening the Door of the Difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the Key of your enlightened Wisdom. If this Opportunity be lost, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together so conveniently; besides the Particulars which I have taken Notice of, and the Payment of the Arrears, due to the *English* Troops, and those of the Sircar, it is necessary to make a large Provision for future Exigencies; you have already given in Pledge, Jewels for a large Amount, to be discharged by different Payments, agreed and signed to by your own Hand. How this Sum is to be paid, unless the Country is settled, I do not perceive; the Pay allowed for the *English* Army has been

limited to One Lack of Rupees per Month; as the Disturbances in the Country have increased every Day, for that Reason large Sums have been expended in bringing Soldiers from *Europe* and *Madras*, and in raising *Sepoys*; on this Account a Lack of Rupees is by no Means sufficient: Let your Excellency duly reflect that your own *Sepoys*, in the Time of Extremity, preferring their own Safety, have joined with the Forces of the Enemy, and the *English* Forces, devoted entirely to your Service, and the Destruction of your Enemies, never were guilty of such a Conduct, nor ever will; and by the Blessing of God, wherever the *English* Standard has been fixed, they have always proved victorious; upon this Account it is by no Means becoming your Wisdom to neglect such brave Men, or to deny them their due Rewards. It is necessary that for this Business your Excellency grant the *English* Company certain Lands, sufficient for the Disbursement of the Pay of the Troops, the Expences of the Artillery, and the Provision of Stores, &c. that without any Trouble to yourself, all their Charges may be defrayed from the Produce of these Lands, and our Arms always ready to be employed in your Service, otherwise I must submit to Necessity. My Concern for my own Honour will not suffer me to be unmoved at the Company's Loss; but I must seek some Expedient for promoting the Interests of the Company, and removing the Evils they are oppressed with; and those Expedients must be adopted. But if your Affliction for the Death of your Son has taken that Hold upon your Mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of such great Difficulties, it is proper that you appoint some capable Person from amongst your Children, in the Place and Dignity of your late Son the Nabob *Najfirool Mulk*, who may take Charge of all these Affairs, regulate the Business of the Country, and remove all these Difficulties—That your Excellency, freed from all the Troubles and Fatigues of the public Transactions, may remain without Care or Uneasiness, and the Shadow of your Protection overspread the Whole.

Translation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob.

Dated the 19th October 1760, at Night.

N<sup>o</sup> 4. I have been waiting all this Day in Expectation that you would have settled some of the weighty and urgent Affairs, upon which I Yesterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your Determination; but you have not favoured me with any Answer concerning them; from hence it plainly appears, that as long as those evil Counsellors remain about your Person, whatsoever I may represent to you for your Prosperity and Welfare, and the Good of this Country, will have no Effect. The Folly of these People will soon deprive you of your Government, and prove the Ruin likewise of the Company's Affairs. I have judged it improper that such Evils and Disgrace should be brought upon us for the Sake of Two or Three Men; for this Reason I have sent Colonel *Cailand* with Forces to wait upon you; when the same Colonel arrives, he will expel those bad Counsellors, and place your Affairs in a proper State. I will shortly follow. Let not your Excellency be under any Apprehensions, but cheerfully receive the Colonel, and give Orders to your Men that they commit no Disturbance, nor raise Tumults in the City. I solemnly declare that I have no other View but your Good and Welfare. Look upon me as your sincere Well-wisher, and remain satisfied.

A P P E N D I X, .N<sup>o</sup> 10.

Proceedings relating to Colonel Caillaud.

Fort William, the 4th October 1762.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The Worshipful *Peter Amyatt*, Esquire, President,  
*William McGwire*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*William Hay*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,  
The Governor indisposed.

Colonel Caillaud's  
Defence, L. R. N<sup>o</sup> 14.

COLONEL Caillaud now delivers in the following Letter, dated this Day, containing an Apology for his Conduct, in Answer to the Charge exhibited against him.

To the honourable *Henry Vanstuart*, Esquire, President, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of Council, at Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

In Compliance to the Orders which you have received relating to me, from the honourable the Court of Directors, in a Postscript of a Letter, under Date the 7th October 1761, in which you are directed and required to cause the strictest and most impartial Enquiry to be made into a Report; "That in Conjunction with the Chuta Nabob, I had signed a Paper, offering a Reward of Fifty thousand Rupees, or some such Sum, to several Black Persons, for the Assassination of the Shahzadah, which Paper was also offered to Mr. Amyatt, the then Chief of *Paina*, for him to sign; but which he refused, as a most infamous Measure:" This, Gentlemen, is the Substance of the Charge, to which I am now to reply.

Unfavourable as the first Appearance of the Action may seem against me, I cannot but hope that when, in the Course of this my Apology, you are made acquainted with the Reasons for my concurring and consenting to this (as it must have appeared) so unjustifiable a Measure, and when all the Circumstances attending on it are laid before you, I flatter myself that I may be able so far to justify my Conduct to the World, my Employers, and you, as to satisfy them, that if I have gone too far, it was from the best of Motives, and with the best of Intentions; such at least as at that Time, and ever since, have acquitted me in my own Breast of any Sense of Guilt; and happy shall I be, if I can make my Actions appear in the same Light to the unprejudiced and impartial Part of Mankind.

Could I have foreseen or expected that one Day I might be called upon to answer to what is now so heavily laid to my Charge, or had my Heart ever once at the Time, or afterwards, reproached me with that Transaction as a Crime, which is now made one of so foul a Nature against me; is it to be supposed but that I would have taken such Precautions to guard against the Consequences, as naturally must have presented themselves to a Mind conscious of Guilt, or of a Fault? On the contrary, as my Conscience never reproached me, so my Conduct, in Consequence, was agreeable to the self-known Honesty and Innocence of my Intentions: On this Account, therefore, I made no Secret of what had passed, but on all Occasions openly

and publicly avowed it; even the very Day after, my first Step was to make the Governor (then Mr. *Holwell*) acquainted with it; Copy of which Letter I shall produce, and in which the Fact is told in all Truth and Sincerity; but in such a Style also, as I think must support what I declare to have been my real Sentiments and Motives in this Affair: I shall bring also a Letter, wrote the Morning of that Evening, in which I acquiesced with the Nabob in that Measure, and in which I think many striking Proofs will be found for the Truth of what I advance in Favour of my Cause.

From whence then could this Consciousness of Security to myself arise? Guilt could never have produced it. Sure then, it could only proceed from a strong Self Conviction, that the Measure to which I then gave my Concurrence could never take place; but to the Appearances of which I was obliged to submit, from the Necessity of the Times, and to avoid greater Ills which then threatened us, as well from the perplexing and critical Situation of Affairs in general, as from the Natures and Dispositions of the People, with whom I had to deal.

As a further Testimony of the Truth of what I am now advancing towards my Vindication; and as a Proof that the Action must have appeared to others in the same Light as it did to me at the Time, I appeal to the Gentlemen then present, Captain *Knox* and Mr. *Lushington*, for their Sentiments on the Affair: For, to the best of my Remembrance, I cannot recollect that either of them once made any Objection, or expressed that just Abhorrence, which naturally would arise against an Action such as I am charged with. Could this proceed from any Cause, but their seeing the whole Transaction with all its attending Circumstances, in the same favourable Point of View, in which it appeared to me? Must they not, like me, have been satisfied and convinced, that it was an idle and vain Scheme, that could never take place, but to which my Concurrence was absolutely necessary, to amuse and keep up the idle foolish Hopes of the Nabob and his Son, who required no less a Proof (as we then stood affected towards each other) to satisfy them, and remove those Fears and Jealousies from which we had every Thing to apprehend.

Thus urged, thus impelled, I made no Scruple of acting to the best of my Judgement and Abilities for the Public Service. To forward that alone was my only Aim, and engrossed all my Attention; to that I sacrificed all Fears, that the Means by which I pursued it, were in Appearance unjustifiable. But Fears indeed I had none, but such as I was ever ready to despise, when the Public Good and my private Safety came in Competition: Others in my Situation might have acted with more Prudence; but none, I will venture to affirm, with more Innocence of Heart, or better Intentions: Had I been guilty, I had the Means in my Power, with Ease, to have concealed it: Had I been less zealous, I had proceeded with more Caution, and given more Attention to my own personal Safety, than to the Dangers of the Public Cause.

But from this my own Report, Gentlemen, neither the World nor you can judge, or be satisfied. I shall therefore endeavour to support what I have already offered in my Vindication, by such Proofs as, from the Nature of the Accusation against me, I shall be able to collect. These Proofs shall consist in a



fair and impartial Account of the Transaction itself, with all the Circumstances attending it that I can possibly charge my Memory with; and by my own Account of the Event immediately after it happened. —The Difficulties I labour under in my Defence, are obvious, by being obliged to answer to so unexpected a Charge, at so great a Distance of Time, there being now above Two Years elapsed; in which Space many Circumstances must have elapsed me, as well as the Gentlemen who were present, which, could we recollect, might have much favoured and assisted my Cause. However, such Allowances and Assistance, in this, and in every other Respect, as may be expected from Men of Honour, Candour, and Generosity, I am satisfied I may expect; and that I shall receive, Gentlemen, from you.

To this Account of the Fact itself shall be joined authenticated Extracts from my Correspondence at that Time; and from these I hope the real Motives of my Action will appear in their strongest and most favourable Light, as will also what I have advanced as to the then critical Situation of our Affairs. But for the Truth of this I may further appeal to many of the present Members of the Council, who must have a perfect Knowledge, as well of our Condition at that Time, as of the Nature of the Men with whom I was obliged to act.

From the Depositions already taken, and the further Questions I may have to ask of Captain Knox and Mr. Lybington, I hope also much may appear in my Favour: What I have to say in my own Cause may be doubted; but that, when strengthened by the Testimony of others, cannot be controverted. Happy shall I esteem myself, if altogether I can satisfy my Employers, and you, Gentlemen, that I have not deserved the Injury done my Reputation.

I am greatly encouraged to hope, from the Reception I have met with since my Arrival here, that no Prejudices are entertained to my Disadvantage. On the contrary, I have all the Reason to be satisfied, that my Cause will be assisted by all the generous Concern which human Minds can feel (without Prejudice to Honour, Truth, or Justice) for Errors, in which the Heart had no Share.

May I venture to conclude this by an Appeal to the Course of my Conduct thro' Life? Have I ever, to the Knowledge of any Man, betrayed in my Actions, my Conversation, or my Manners, a Want of Humanity? or in my Nature and Disposition shewn that I had not the Feelings of a Man? and may I, without an Imputation of Vanity, rather flatter myself, that amongst my Friends and my Acquaintance, I was held in some Esteem, for the Practice of a few Virtues the most opposite to such a Character. Is it possible then, that I could in One Minute so far change my Nature; and that at once forgetting all that was due to myself, to Honour, to Principle, and to Humanity, I could be guilty of the Crime laid to my Charge?

There are none of you, Gentlemen, here, but what are well acquainted with the Shah Zadah's first Attempts in the Year 1759, who then entered the Subahship of *Babar*, at the Head of an Army, which gave the first Rife to the Troubles and Confusion, that for a Time so distracted this Government. Colonel Clive, with his usual Conduct, Activity, and Success, baffled with Ease his first Attempts, and obliged him to retire over the *Caramanah*, the Boundaries of the *Paina* Province; and there was Room to hope, that all further Troubles from that Quarter were happily over.

However, early in the Year 1760, the Prince was encouraged by the Number of dissatisfied Rajahs and Jemiyars of these Provinces (who all promised to support his Cause) once more to try his Fortune. You are well informed of his first Successes by the

Defeat of *Rameian*, the Subah then of *Paina*; of my March, in Conjunction with the Nabob's Son, to the Relief of that City; and of our Success against the Prince, whose Army was defeated at *Cirey* on the 22d February.

The bad Use that was made of this Victory, the Causes of which are well known, gave the Prince Time to collect his scattered Adherents; and the then Situation of the Province of *Bengal* gave him Hopes, that he might better carry the Point, by striking at once at the Root before we could prevent the Mischief, which determined him to move for that Province, leaving behind him every Thing that could retard his March, and with an Army composed almost of nothing but Cavalry.

The old Nabob was then in *Bengal*, and had taken the Field at the Head of an Army, as mutinous, disobedient, and ill appointed, as a Body of Troops could be, to whom there was owing vast Arrears of Pay, and even without Money for their immediate Subsistence. The Occasion of his taking the Field at first, was with an Intention to reduce to Obedience the Nabob of *Pyrnab*, who had thrown off his Allegiance, and was encamped on the Banks of the *Ganges*, with an Army well appointed and well paid of Thirty thousand Men; and besides this Force, by whom the Shah Zadah expected to be joined, there was also a Body of *Morattes* that had entered the Province from *Catack*, and were then in the Heart of *Bengal*, plundering and destroying the most fruitful Part of the Province; and this was the Situation of Affairs in this Government about the Beginning of *March*.

Mr. Holwell was then Governor, and had succeeded Colonel Clive, who had sailed for *Europe* some Time in *February*; while he remained, such was his Influence and Ascendancy over the Nabob, that he was kept within some Bounds; but no sooner was that Check removed, than he began to pursue such Measures as gave Mr. Holwell (and indeed with Justice) very early Impressions to his Disadvantage; and as Mr. Holwell did not conceal his Sentiments, the Nabob was soon apprized of them; and thus a mutual Distrust and Jealousy of each other was very early and firmly established. I own the Nabob's Conduct was such, that though my Way of acting was different, yet my real Opinion of him was to the full as bad as Mr. Holwell's; but our respective Thoughts on this Subject will best appear by the subjoined Extracts of our Letters. One of mine to the Governor, dated the 27th *February*, and his Answer of the 11th of *March*.

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated *Shah Zadahpore*, 27th *February* 1760.

"The more I see of the Nabob, the more I am convinced he must be ruined in Spite of all our Endeavours, if he does not alter his present Measures: He is neither loved nor feared by his Troops, nor his People: He neglects securing the one by the Badness of his Payments; and he wants Spirit and Steadiness to command the others: As no one knows him better than you, Sir, no one is more proper to give him the necessary Advice on the Occasion; nor can you too forcibly, or frequently, represent to him the fatal Consequences, if he persists in his Folly?"

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Answer, dated *Calcutta*, 11th *March* 1760.

"The Judgment you have formed of the Nabob is too just. Weakness, Irresolution, Suspicion, and consequently Cruelty, from his Disposition: What but the Issue you predict, can result from these, when joined to a most ungracious and insolent Deceit, which has made him universally hated and despised? We must, however, support him and his Government

"Government as long as we possibly can, without involving ourselves and our Employers in his Ruin.  
 "When this appears, it will be Time to think a little further, as I judge there is no Treaty subsisting between us, that can exact that Sacrifice from us."

III, however, as it appears I thought of the Nabob, yet I strove on all Occasions to soften Matters between him and Mr. Holwell: I knew and apprehended the fatal Consequences of such Jealousies and Divisions amongst us, which in the End could but encrease our Difficulties, and add to the Confusion and Perplexity of our Situation.

Among the many Subjects of Contention between them, there were Two in particular that much widened the Breach, and in the Conduct of which I thought there were Faults on both Sides.

The Nabob at this Time had been particularly earnest with Mr. Holwell, with regard to the Protection that was continued to a Person called *Roydoolabram*, against whom there were very strong Proofs, that he had been very instrumental in promoting the Troubles which then reigned in the Country; that he had favoured the Prince's Cause, and assisted him with Money; and that it was owing principally to his Representations and Advice, that the Prince had begun his March towards *Bengal*; and that the *Morattos* had entered the Province. It was certain that the Force of any Accusation which the Nabob could bring against this Man, was much weakened by the Knowledge we had of his Motives, and the many Attempts he had before made, at the Expence of Truth, to induce us to withdraw our Protection from him: But at this Time my Suspicions of his Conduct were not grounded so much on what the Nabob advanced against him, as from my own Knowledge of Facts, which proved that he not only then encouraged, but was assisting the Prince's Cause. I did not think therefore that all was done that might have been done, to give the Nabob Satisfaction in this Affair: Tho' I must do Mr. Holwell the Justice to say, that notwithstanding our Sentiments differed on this Subject, yet he had so much Regard to my Representations, as to have the Man confined to his House, and narrowly watched. Our Opinions will best appear on this Subject also by Two short Extracts of One of my Letters to him, dated the 4th of March, and his Answer of the 12th.

Extract of Colonel *Caillaud's* Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Campt at *Ciray* the 4th March 1760.

"There was a Report that *Roydoolabram* and *Nuncema* were confined. I could have wished to have seen it confirmed in your last Letter; as to the latter, I know nothing of him, but for the former, I am convinced he has been the principal Person concerned in all these Troubles. His Confinement, if true, will, I think, be a great Means to ruin the *Shah Zadah*, and his Party—as his Interest and Money have been the principal Means of his Support.

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Answer, dated Calcutta 12th March 1760.

"I must differ in Sentiments with you touching *Roydoolabram's* supporting him (meaning *Sabat*, the Chief of the *Morattos*, who were in the Country) or the *Shah Zadah*; narrowly watched as he has been, it is hardly possible he could have furnished either with Supplies; and for the further Security of him, I have removed him and his Sons into the Centre of the Town, where they are, and shall remain close Prisoners until these Troubles subside."

This Affair was One of those which had first begun the Distrusts and Doubts that subsisted between the Governor and the Nabob; but another of a more serious Nature, that happened about this Time, encreased it to such a Degree, as still made my Situation between them more and more perplexed. It will be necessary, however, before I mention this Event, that I mention what became of the Prince, and of his Expedition into the *Bengal* Province.

As we had the earliest Intelligence of the Prince's March and Designs, the young Nabob was then convinced, but too late, of his Folly; and to make what Amends he could for it, he agreed to pursue any Measures I would propose: There was but one left, which was to follow the Prince as fast as we could; and though it could not be expected, from the Nature of our Troops, that we could come up with his Army, yet we kept it close to him, as entirely prevented his putting in Execution any Part of his Plan of Operations, expecting his being joined by the *Morattos*. As for us, after the Junction was made between the old Nabob's Army and ours, we marched, in Hopes of bringing the Prince to another Engagement, which he as cautiously avoided; however, what with lucky and unlucky Hours, and every Sort of Delay and Disappointment that could attend Irresolution in Council, and Cowardice in Execution, we lost many Opportunities; the last best, when I came up near enough to the Rear of the Prince's Army to cannonade them; but from which they soon got out of Reach; and the Prince finding he could not make any Thing of it, while he had our Army to contend with, took the safe Rout back, by which he came, and thus ended his fruitless Attempt in *Bengal*; and as soon as we were satisfied of his Retreat, our Army, in Conjunction with the Two Nabobs and their Forces, marched towards the City of *Muxadradul*.

It was about this Time that I received a Letter from Mr. Holwell, dated the 7th April, informing me, that he had found out that the Nabob was carrying on a Correspondence with the Prince, and of so injurious a Nature to the mutual Engagements which we were under to each other, as deserved our warmest Repentment, desiring me that I would use all the Means in my Power to come at the Truth of it; that he, for his Part, had been employing an Embassy with *Cander Khan*, the Man who was then the Prince's principal Support. The Consequence of this Embassy's Negotiations (of the Nature of which I never was made acquainted, whether by Letter or Message) was no less than Mr. Holwell's receiving in Answer a Phirmaund from the Prince with many bad Words, and inclosing a Copy, as it is said, of the Nabob's Address, into the Authenticity of which I was to enquire. Thus a Correspondence was established between Mr. Holwell and the Prince, at the same Time that he was so loudly reproaching the Nabob with a Step of the same Nature.

The first Intimation I had given me of this Affair, was previous to Mr. Holwell's Letter, and came to me from some of the Persons about the Nabob, informing me that the Nabob was acquainted with the whole Transaction, and was under the greatest Uneasiness and Apprehensions about it; for which I own I thought he had but too much Reason; for as he could not know Mr. Holwell's Motives, such a Circumstance at the Time must have much affected him, and made a very strong Impression on his Mind. I did not then immediately give my Sentiments to Mr. Holwell on the Affair; but some Time after, upon his mentioning, in a Letter to me, that his Messengers coming from the Prince had been plundered of their Letters, which, he said, could not be done by any but some of the Nabob's Embassy, I could not help, in my Answer to him, in a general Letter of the 1st of May, saying—

Extract

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to the Board, dated  
Madrass, 11<sup>th</sup> May 1760.

"In the President's Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> ultimo, he informs me, that the returning Mircarahs from *Cander Khan* had been plundered of the Letters they had. I am concerned indeed at it, but not so much from any great Loss the Letters can be; but that if they have fallen into the Nabob's Hands, he will have Reason to think it very extraordinary, that at the same Time we are reproaching him with carrying on a Correspondence without our Knowledge, to find such Proofs against us of our doing the like; with another disagreeable Circumstance attending it, Letters in the same Packet for Men his known and professed Enemies, such as *Rajahram* and *Nuncemar*."

To set the above Circumstances in the clearest Light I can, Circumstances which I think must strongly tend towards my Justification, I will now lay before you, Gentlemen, an Extract of that Letter from the Governor, dated the 7<sup>th</sup> April, in which he first makes me acquainted both with his own Correspondence, and that which he suspected the Nabob was carrying on with the Prince; and to this I shall subjoin my Answer of the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, which I will beg of you to observe was wrote the Morning of that very Day, on which, with the Nabob and his Son, I signed that Paper with regard to the Prince.

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Letter to Colonel Caillaud, dated  
Calcutta, the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1760.

"I am now to touch on a Subject to you, which appears to me to require our greatest Attention: Some Days ago I wrote Mr. Hastings concerning an Information that was given me, that the old Nabob had sent a trusty Person with a submissive Arazee to the Sha Zadah, in which he exculpated himself, by throwing the whole Blame of the Opposition made to his Arms, on the Machinations of the *English*. Mr. Hastings, in his Letter in Answer to mine, seemed to think it impossible such a Step could have been taken by the Nabob, or indeed, that he could have sent any Arazee at all: However, in a subsequent Letter from him, of the 27<sup>th</sup>, he finds out, that an Arazee was sent, though different in Purport to that I informed him of: As I thought it most essential to us to trace, if possible, the Truth, I employed an Emisary to *Comjar Khan*; the Consequence of which has been a Phirmaund from the Sha Zadah, enclosing Copy of the old Nabob's Arazee to him, with an Apology for not sending the Original; a Copy of the Copy I send you enclosed, and request your Sentiments, how and in what Light this appears to you. If the Copy is authentic, the Case is plain, that this Man, for whom we have drawn the Sword, would not scruple, if drove to any Extremity, to make his Peace by the Sacrifice of his Protectors. The Phirmaund, I suppose, differs little in Matters from that he sent you; he reminds me of the Obligations the *English* lay under to his Ancestors; and offers a *Charte Blanche* for the Company, provided we will draw our Forces off from that Doer of Evil, and join them to his Standard, which he advises me he has at present fixed at *Burgur*; and in a few Days purpotes to erect it in *Muxadavad*, &c."

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Answer, dated Camp at  
Dignagur, the 15<sup>th</sup> April 1760.

"I am now to answer your Two last obliging Favours of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>; the Receipt of which I acknowledged in my last of the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant. In order to come to the Truth, with Regard to the  
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"Nabob's Arazee to the Prince, Mr. Hastings had Recourse to the Nabob's *Persian* Writer; a Man who has on many Occasions given him Proofs of Attachment and Fidelity. The Moment he set his Eyes on the Paper, he declared it to be a Forgery: May I beg Leave to refer you to Mr. Hastings for the Reasons he gave for it, as that Gentleman's Knowledge in the Language will enable him to give you a clearer Idea of these Distinctions in Addresses, and the Style of their Letters, than I can pretend to, for my Part I own, after Mr. Hastings had repeated them to me, they were so satisfactory as to convince me, the Probability of its being a Forgery was greatly in the Nabob's Favour.

"Two Days, Sir, before I received your Letter, the Nabob and his Son were with me, and I found the old Man big with something that he did not well know how to bring breaking to me; I helped him forward all I could, by those Kind of Assurances which often open the Hearts of Men; and he then told me that he had wrote to the Prince, and had received an Answer, such a one as gave him Hopes with other Circumstances, that the Prince might be inclinable to treat, and put himself perhaps in his Power; but that he knew he (the Prince) would not do this, without I would be his Security for his Safety: The Nabob was desirous to know in such a Case, how I would act; but the main Drift of his Discourse was to find out, in short, how far I would be consenting, in Case, by the Means of this Treaty, the Prince would trust himself so far in his Power as to give him an Opportunity of displaying the true Eastern System of Politics, by cutting him off. You may easily, Sir, guess my Answer, *That I was ready to do every Thing for his Service consistent with the Honour of my Country, and the sacred Regard we paid to our Word*; and besides, that if the Prince made any Address to me on this Subject of Security, I must first have your Instructions in the Affair; and thus the Conversation ended. I made it my Business afterwards to enquire among some of the Nabob's People, on what Grounds he founded these Hopes of getting the Prince in his Power, but they all assured me, as I suspected, *That they were no more than the idle Reports of some of his Ministers, who knew such Stories would be well received and credited, and so found their Advantage in flattering his foolish Hopes*.

"It is a very unfortunate Circumstance that we have to do with so weak a Man, who neither from Principle nor Merit deserves the Dignity of the Station we have raised him to; and in which he could not remain Twenty-four Hours, if we were to withdraw our Protection from him, and on which he now so much depends, that I am obliged to give him a Guard of *Sepoys* for the Safety of his Person. It does not appear to me, however, in Justice or in Reason, that we ought to support him in the Pursuit of unjustifiable Measures, such as he follows, in regard to the not discharging the vast Arrears due to his Troops, who, to a Man, have publicly declared they will not draw their Swords in his Cause, and that only the Fear of us prevents their using them against him: The Consequences of which will be, as to his Part, that while he is not afraid of his Head, he never will satisfy them; and to us, that though we may protect him against immediate Danger to his Person, we must relinquish the Hopes of seeing the Country free from Troubles, while he keeps a body of Troops he will not pay regularly, and over whom he has consequently no Command. This rotten System we might still, in some Measure, support, were we always assured none but the Country Powers would disturb us. But I believe it is more than probable, that the *French* and *Dutch*, if not both, may some Time or other renew their Attempts to be con-  
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cerned,

cerned, and with how much the more Probability of Success from the distracted State of the Country, while the Nabob continues to govern it so ill: The first Opportunity I propose representing all this to him in the strongest Light I possibly can, and should our Opinions agree, I should take it as a Favour if you would inclose a Letter from yourself on the Subject; I will deliver it, and take that Opportunity, as the best, to try what can be done by working on his Fears; the only Way, indeed, I am convinced, of managing him to our own Advantage and his Good. In particular, Sir, you will please to enforce the Payment of his Troops, hinting, that if he delays it, I have your Orders not to prevent their taking their own Measures."

From this Letter, I think, Gentlemen, my real Sentiments may be judged to appear in their strongest Light; and if such was my Way of Thinking in the Morning, it may be well supposed they might in a great Degree influence the Measures to which I concurred in the Evening. My natural Abhorrence of any bad or base Action, appears, I think, strongly expressed; nor is it less evident from what follows immediately after, how much Reason and Justice I had to treat any Information of that Sort from the Nabob, with all that Degree of Contempt and Disbelief which it merited. After I was convinced and satisfied from my Enquiries, how little Foundation there was for the Truth and Probability of any such Event taking Place, had not this Letter Proof strongly prepossessed me, it is evident, I think, that I should have followed my first Sentiments, which from the most agreeable to my Disposition and Nature. My Opinion of the Nabob's Situation and our own Prospects, are painted in their true Colours, and may serve also to prove, how perplexed my own Situation must have been at the Time.

All these Circumstances considered, did it not become absolutely necessary for me to give the Nabob some such Proof as would satisfy him, and calm those Fears and Apprehension, which the Tenor of Mr. Holwell's Conduct had so strongly impressed on his Mind? Bad as I thought of the whole System, yet I was bound by all the Means in my Power to support it. A mutual Confidence between me and the Nabob was essentially necessary for this Purpose, and could it be done more effectually than by removing the Cause of his Mistrust? In a few Hours after such an Opportunity offers, and was it not my Business and my Duty to embrace it? the Proof of such a Nature as best could answer every good Purpose which I could propose from it: A Proof the best calculated, in Point of Time and Circumstance, that could happen, and the strongest Self Conviction, when I gave it, that the Measure which it hath appeared to tend to, was such as I knew could never take Place. Let me request, Gentlemen, that the Evidence which this Letter conveys of the true State of my Mind at that Time, may have all the Weight and Attention I think it deserves; and how strong the Presumption, that it must have influenced me in the Act which followed almost immediately after.

To the Transaction itself I am now come, and as many Particulars as I can charge my Memory with attending on it, I shall relate.

On the 15th of April, in the Evening, I waited on the Nabob; my Intention in the Visit was to introduce Captain Knox to take his Leave, as he was the next Day to march for Patna, with a Detachment under his Command; and I further wanted to engage the Nabob to send with him a Body of Cavalry: Mr. Lushington, as my Interpreter, of Course was with me.

We called in our Way first on the Nabob's Son, with whom we staid a few Minutes, and I remember his presenting me at that Time with a Palanquin, which he had promised me a long Time before, and had come up that Day from *Muxadawad*. The little Circum-

stances which I may throw into the Course of this my Account of the Affair, are meant only to shew, that I am possessed of that Degree of Recollection, which must give Evidence to the Truth of what I may relate of the more essential Parts of this Transaction.

From the young Nabob's Tents, we set out to his Father's: I think I had mentioned to his Son my wanting a Body of Cavalry to go with Captain Knox; certain it is, that a little after our Arrival at the old Nabob's, I desired Mr. Lushington to settle this Business with the young one; for which Purpose they went into another Apartment; where they, with the *Patna* Jemidars, remained for some Time talking and settling this Affair, leaving Captain Knox, with the old Nabob and me, in another Part of the Tent. What the Subject of the Conversation was between us I cannot recollect; but this I am very certain of, that the little which could have passed must have been of a very general Nature, as there was only Captain Knox to explain between us; for so imperfect at that Time was his Knowledge of the Country Language, that it was impossible that he could interpret any regular Series of Conversation between the Nabob and me. I can recollect my going into the Tent where the young Nabob and Mr. Lushington were sitting, with the *Patna* Jemidars abovementioned, in order to know what was determined on; how long I remained there, and how soon after they were dismissed, I cannot pretend to charge my Memory with. All I know with Certainty is, that they were dismissed, and all other Attendants; and I think that the old Nabob then changed his Seat, and came into that Part of the Tent, where his Son had been with Mr. Lushington; that there was then present the Nabob, his Son, Captain Knox, Mr. Lushington, myself, and a *Persian* Writer or two. To the best of my Remembrance the Nabob's Head Hircarrah, one *Cluckan*, was there; I am satisfied, at least, he was there some Part of the Time. I then well and confidently remember a Letter being produced and read (by whom I cannot say) and by that Letter I think the Subject was first opened; but that Mr. Lushington explained it to me, as he did every other Part of the Conversation, I solemnly declare to be most true, and that it was the first Time, and the only Time, I ever heard of the Matter; and that Mr. Lushington, and Mr. Lushington alone, was and could be the Interpreter on the Occasion.

The Purport of the Letter was, that one *Canderoy*, formerly a Servant of *Cander Khan*, made an Offer of delivering the Prince into our Hands; but if that could not be done, he would cut him off. The Letter, I think, was addressed to that Head Hircarrah *Cluckan*, whose Character for Untruth, I believe, some Gentlemen here can vouch for. However, I will not affirm this as a positive Truth, but of this I am most sure, that after having heard the Letter explained, I repeatedly gave it as my Opinion, that I believed it all a Forgery, contrived by the Nabob, on Purpose to be satisfied, by my consenting to, or rejecting it, what Judgement he might form of the Nature of the Correspondence then carrying on by Mr. Holwell, and how far I was concerned in it: I remember well my enquiring into the Means of this being carried into Execution, and many other Questions, that would have enabled me to judge how far I might give Credit to the Scheme. The Answers to which Questions I remember but served the more to confirm me in a perfect Disbelief of the whole Matter, and make me, with so much Ease, give my Concurrence to the Scheme, as, without any Danger to the Prince, I knew it might serve to gain my Ends with the Nabob.

The Reason why I was asked to seal the Paper, in Conjunction with the Two Nabobs, was to ascertain to the Man the Reward which was promised to him; for such was the State of their Credit in the Country at that Time, that few cared to trust their Words, even for so small a Sum; and without this Proof I knew nothing

was done towards satisfying the Nabob; I therefore readily consented to it, and delivered, in Consequence, Mr. *Lushington*, to send for my Seal.

I do not remember any Objection made by either of the Gentlemen with me. I have the faint Recollection of any Expression of Dislike in Captain *Knox's* Countenance, which might have first introduced the Reasons which he so well recollects in his Deposition, that I gave for the Necessity of going the Lengths I did, and with which, to the best of my Knowledge, he was well satisfied. As to Mr. *Lushington*, there was no Objection started by him, that I can in the least recollect or remember; but of this I am confident, that if he had thought the Measure improper, or unjustifiable, he would have made Objections.—And for the Truth of this I call to myself, conscious as he must be of the Intimacy and Friendship that subsisted between us, which was such as made him ready, on all public Occasions, to give me his Sentiments with Freedom, which were ever by me received with Kindness, as I always had the greatest Confidence in him, from a thorough Sense of his Capacity and Merit: I must own, indeed, that I have seen his Depositions on the Affair with the greatest Concern and Surprise; that he might have forgot all that passed was possible, but that his Memory shall be so treacherous as to make him remember Things so evidently contrary and opposite to what really happened at the Time, is, indeed, to me a Matter of no less Astonishment than Concern. However, it is possible that I may help his Recollection, by a few Questions, when we shall have the Honour, together with Captain *Knox*, to appear before you.

While my Seals were going for, I believe the Paper was writing, and as my Tent was at some Distance from the Nabob's, some Time must have elapsed before they could come; perhaps Half an Hour; and all which Time I presume the Conversation was continued on the Subject.—When the Seal came, it was put to the Paper, by whom I recollect not, nor does it, indeed, matter much, for whoever did it, it was done at my Desire, and by my Directions; I have mentioned this Circumstance, as I have been given to understand, that some Strefs has been laid on this particular Act of Mr. *Lushington*, as if by it he could be deemed an Accessary in the Transaction; in Consequence of the further Orders given by the Court of Directors, that if any Europeans were concerned in the Affair, they should likewise be dismissed their Service. There is no Need here of adding to the Weight of what I feel on this Occasion, the painful Reflection that any others should suffer for an Action intirely my own. If Mr. *Lushington* put the Seal, it was to save me the Trouble; it was not his Duty, nor his Office, nor did I ever esteem it so, nor understand that it was. My Seal was in general affixed by a Persian Writer; and if now the Question was asked me, who it was, to the best of my Remembrance, that then did that Service, I should certainly say it was one of the Persian Writers then present; not indeed from Recollection, because, from the Distance of Time, this Circumstance has escaped my Memory, but because there was no Reason at that Time for changing our general Custom, which as I have said was for the Persian Writers to seal the Letters; and that it was so from no other Reason, but that in any Attempts of that Kind we commonly make a Blot instead of an Impression; as their Manner differs from ours, it requires Practice to do it as it ought. In short, Captain *Knox*, who was with me, by mere Accident, may as well be deemed an Accessary as Mr. *Lushington*; the Act was my own entirely, and whatever was done, was done by my Directions and Orders.

Soon after the Seals being put, I took my Leave, and from that Time, or rather from the Day after, in which I informed the Governor of what had passed, I never once thought more of the Matter, at least seriously enough to make me think I had done amiss. Mr. *Amyatt*,

in his Letter to the Board, mentions his having wrote to me on the Subject, and that my Answer was, “As to the Affair of the Three Seals, as there was nothing particular mentioned, I have no particular Charge to answer.” And this proceeded from a Confidence then, which Belief still held me (until some Days ago that I saw the original Paper) that no Mention had ever been made in the Paper on what Account the Money was to be paid, but that it was mentioned in general, such a Sum should be given, when he had performed the Service he had engaged to do the Nabob. I do not mention this as meaning it should be esteemed any Part of my Justification; it is only to clear up that Passage.—I never denied what had been done; and the Extract which I now produce of my Letter to the Governor, dated the 16th of April, the very Day after, is, I think, a sufficient Proof of it.

Extract of Colonel *Caillaud's* Letter to Mr. *Holwell*, dated Camp at *Dignogur*, the 16th April 1760.

“In my last I informed you, Sir, of some of the Nabob's late notable Schemes, but last Night he made me acquainted with another (still more notable, and in which also I am concerned to little Effect. I believe, however, there could be no Harm in trying; this it is.

“On *Condery*, Duan to *Comer Khan*, wrote to the Nabob, and as engaged to put the Prince in his Hands, or to cut him off, if the Nabob would agree to give him a Lack of Rupers, and the Command of *Comer Khan's* Country; and if the Nabob accepted of these Proposals, the Promise was to be made, signed, and sealed, by the Two Nabobs and myself, all which was done last Night.”

Mr. *Holwell's* Answer, under Date the 22d, I will insert at large. I must observe, that there has been a Mistake in the Date of my Letter, or in the Copies taken, for in his Letter he acknowledges Receipts of mine of the 15th and 17th; in my Copy Book, the Date of the Letter is the 16th. I did not write to him on the 17th, nor indeed until the 20th, so it is plain he received this Letter, which I call mine of the 16th, and this he acknowledges as of the 17th.

Mr. *Holwell's* Letter to Colonel *Caillaud*, dated 22 April 1760.

“I have the Pleasure of your Two Favours of the 15th and 17th, and must take a further Day to reply to them more circumstantially; for the present I enclose you a Letter to the old Nabob to the Purport of your Request, and with it a Copy for your Perusal, and, I hope, Approval; it contains, I think, nothing but what should at all Events be urged to him at this Juncture. Something must be done, and soon, to recover the Currency of the Trade of the Provinces, or the Company must be lost: The Sale of their Woollen Goods, Copper, &c. Exports are totally obstructed, their Investment in Consequence of this, and the unavoidable Stoppage of the Tankas, wholly at a Stand, and not more than a Lack and Half in their Treasury, Particulars you should be necessarily acquainted with, as they arise from the perpetual Troubles of the Country, perpetuated, I may too justly say, by the Wickeds, as well as Weakness, of those who govern it.

“To give you what are still my Sentiments on the Nabob's Arzdaht to the Prince, and my Reasons for those Sentiments, I now inclose you Copy of my Reply to Mr. *Hastings* on that Head, and think my Judgment of this Affair more confirmed from the Circumstance recited in your Favour of the 15th; to wit, the Nabob's having acknowledged to you his Writing to the Prince, and that his Reply gave him  
“I hope

"Hopes he was inclined to treat ; the carrying on this concealed Correspondence with the Prince, I cannot look on in any other Light than as the highest Infringement of the Respect and Deference due to your Station, and the Treaty subsisting between us : And here it becomes, Sir, needful to remark, it is full Time the Nabob should be convinced he is not to look upon you as an Officer sent to submit implicitly to his Orders or Sentiments, but as his Coadjutor and Protector in the War ; and should, at any Time, his wretched Politics dictate Measures, which appear in your Opinion destructive of the general End proposed, I hope, and doubt not, but you will think yourself fully authorized peremptorily to over-rule them, without losing Time in Application here ; as I am very well satisfied we may depend on the Propriety of your Conduct in the Command and Trust you are invested with. I have the Honour to be, with very real Esteem, &c."

I have transcribed the Whole of the above Letter, as I think, Gentlemen, it still gives a further Proof of what I have already advanced, as to the then critical and perplexed Situation of our Affairs. Mr. *Hoskell* says, when he acknowledges Receipt of those Two Letters of the 15th and 17th, that he must take a further Day to reply to them more circumstantially ; but this was never done in any of his subsequent Letters, as to the principal Point in Question ; of which, if you should have any Doubts, they may be easily satisfied by laying before you the whole Course of our Correspondence together. This Answer of Mr. *Hoskell's*, I think, proves, at least tacitly, his Opinion of the Affair ; and what is still more, you will please to observe, that though in my Account of the Transaction to him, I gave no particular Reasons for my Motives in going such Lengths ; and though my own Words, "That there could be no Harm in trying," seem to imply, as if I admitted, at least a Possibility ; yet the little Probability of it must have appeared in so strong a Light to the Governor, that he never once censured me as guilty even of an Indiscretion, much less of a Crime ; on the contrary, he seems rather inclined, from the Letter, to approve my Conduct in general, and consequently to encrease in his Confidence.

It becomes necessary, however, Gentlemen, to inform you why I did not make the Governor acquainted with the real Motives of my Conduct, and contented myself with so general an Account of the Transaction ; and this I am induced to do, that I may clear up any Imprefensions to my Disadvantage which might arise from those Words, "There is no Harm in trying," which if not yet accounted for, might, notwithstanding my solemn Declaration to the contrary, convey an Idea, that I admitted at least a Possibility of the Scheme taking Place. In doing this, I must touch upon a Subject which I willingly would have avoided ; but I cannot, in so far a Cause as that of my Reputation and Character, leave any Thing out, which I think may tend to clearing it up to your Satisfaction.

Mr. *Hoskell's* general Character and Disposition is well known in *India*, and many were the Cautions which I received from those who knew him best, to be on my Guard against him. This naturally excluded any great Degree of Confidence on my Side. But I was cautious also of myself, and not willing hastily to arraign and condemn his Conduct, fearing the Consequences of a Mind already tainted with Prejudices against him, which might have biased my Judgement, and led me to censure Actions in him, which perhaps, more impartially inclined, I might have approved in others : And though I might have been ever so much in the Right, such a Subject between him and me must certainly have given Rise to Altercation and Dispute, which could not but have added to the Confusion of our Affairs. I therefore forbore as long as I possibly could, and for the public Good I rather chose to avoid

every Thing that might offend, while I could do it consistently with my Duty. My Motives, had I given them, must have implied a very heavy Censure on his Conduct, when I could have only told him that the whole Course of his extraordinary Behaviour towards the Nabob, and that particular Part of it in carrying on a secret Correspondence with the Prince, at the very Time that he was so loudly censuring the same Step in the Nabob, had forced me to concur in a Measure, to which I never would have consented if any other Proof could have satisfied the Nabob, that we were not making the best Terms we could for ourselves, without any Regard to him, or the mutual Engagements subsisting between us. As I did not therefore, for the Reasons abovementioned, acquaint Mr. *Hoskell* with my Motives, I was obliged, in my Account of the Transaction itself, to throw in, at least, such a Degree of Probability attending on it, as would save me from appearing in the ridiculous Light of having consented to a Measure, which I was proving could answer no End, and that was my only Reason for inserting the Words I did ; nor does it less evidently, I think, appear from the ingenuous and open Manner in which I relate the Transaction itself, but that I must have been conscious to myself how well prepared I was, from the Innocence of my real Intentions, to answer any Charge, which at that Time might have been brought against me.

You have had now, Gentlemen, laid before you in all Sincerity and Truth, all that I have to offer in my Justification ; but I cannot conclude without taking some Notice of the Manner, in which this heavy Charge is exhibited against me.

The Letter from the honourable the Court of Directors begins by their Words (which is all that appears as the Ground of their Charge) "It having been strongly reported," but whether their Reports were of a public or of a private Nature, how far examined into, and who were the Authors of them, are Points which I am left to guess at, though I own I thought some farther Lights into the Accusation, or at least, the Names of my Accusers, was a Satisfaction due to my Character ; but which I am deeply concerned to find, I was not thought worthy to receive. Little, I own, did I expect such a Return for upwards of Nine Years Services ; and in the Course of which I had flattered myself that my Conduct had been irreproachable ; and if I may be permitted to say it, I was still the more confirmed in this fond Hope, by having been honoured by that Body with some distinguishing Marks of Favour. I must further own, that their last Rewards (which I have ever gratefully acknowledged, was due alone to their Interest and Solicitations) were of such a Nature as far exceeded my best Services : Impressed therefore with the highest Sense of Gratitude for their Favours, happy in the Confidence of their Approbation, and anxiously pursuing the only Means in my Power, by which I could acquire myself towards them ; I am unhappy enough in one Instant to find all my best Hopes frustrated, my Reputation blasted (a Reputation confirmed and established by themselves) and all this owing to a ready Belief of the very first Report to my Disadvantage.

As to my Accusers, I have said I am given Leave to guess at them ; however, some Friends have been kind enough to give me that private Satisfaction, which I thought was my Due from public Justice. I am now only surprised, that every Report which that worthy Man has so industriously spread and propagated against me, to the Prejudice of my Character, has not obtained equal Credit, and been made another Part of the Charge against me. I mean the Report "of my having also ordered the Assassination of the young Nabob, whose Death was given out to have happened by a Flash of Lightning." This I introduce as a Proof of the great Degree of Credit, which my Accuser deserves. Indeed, as I have acknowledged the other Fact, so far I must

must own, and do the Gentleman Justice, that there was some Truth in the first Part of his Information; but whether led to it by a natural Disposition to Malice, Scandal, and Calumny, or whether actuated by the more noble Zeal for the common Injury done to Humanity, public Honour, and Justice, are Points which I think deserved some Attention from the respectable Body, who received his Information, and might have justly been a Subject well deserving their strictest Enquiry: Would it not also have been but fair and just for this Body to have considered his Station in their Service, and how far it rendered him a competent Judge of public Transactions from the supposed Knowledge he could have in Country Affairs, in which he never was employed? If the Fact had really been as represented by him, the Court of Directors must have been satisfied, that it was of a public Nature, or how could one of his Rank have come by his Intelligence: And if of a public Nature, why did it not come to them in a proper Channel, and from whence alone, in Honour and Justice to their Servants, Complaints should ever be heard? The Court of Directors must either suppose that their Servants in Council are very deficient in their Duty, or that the Affair was misrepresented to them, since no Notice was taken of it here at the Board, from whence they might naturally suppose the Account would have come for their own Honour, had I been as guilty as the Story they credited seemed to make me. All these Circumstances considered, should have had, I think, some Weight, and might have induced them to shew a greater Degree of Tenderness, than appears in the Nature of the Enquiry; especially in Favour of one whose Character to their Knowledge was free from Stain or Blemish.

Such, however, is my Confidence in the Cause of Truth, that still I hope the Shame will fall on those who best deserve it; and that the impartial Part of Mankind will as freely acquit me, as I have been acquitted by my own Conscience in the whole Course of the Affair.

I am satisfied also, that Justice will have her Turn, and that those from whom I think I have received this undeserved Injury to my Reputation, will be as ready (when convinced of my Innocence) to make me all the Amends in their Power.

But this Case of mine now, Gentlemen, becomes more immediately your own. It is from your Opinion and Decision, that the impartial World must judge and determine. To you all the Facts recited must appear in their strongest Point of View. To you the Truth of the Arguments I have used in my Defence, must appear in all their Force; and the Strength of the Proofs I have brought in Support of them, are best to be determined by you alone, whose Knowledge of every Particular, by being on the Spot, must make your Judgments much more perfect and discerning, than those who at so great a Distance are hereafter to determine on my Conduct.

By your Opinions, therefore, I am to stand or fall; well pleased and happy to submit the Cause of Innocence and Truth to the Decision of Men of Honour and Justice.

I have the Honour to be, with perfect Respect,  
Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient, and  
Most humble Servant,  
*John Caillaud.*  
*Calcutta, the 4th*  
*Oct. 1762.*

Colonel Caillaud's Letter. L. R. N° 15.

He also sends in another Letter, requesting that after we have perused the above Apology, we will be pleased to appoint a Day for examining Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on some Questions which he is desirous of putting to them.

VOL. III.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"After the Perusal of the Papers, which this Morning I have the Honour of laying before you, may I further request, that you will be pleased to appoint a Day on which Captain Knox, Mr. Lushington, and myself, may appear before you?

"I have the Honour to be, with all Respect,

Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient, and

"*Calcutta,*  
"*Oct. 4th, 1762.*" Most humble Servant,  
"*John Caillaud.*"

Day appointed for examining Colonel Caillaud's Witnesses.

Agreed, We meet on *Thursday* next, to examine any Witnesses which Colonel Caillaud may think proper to call in his Defence.

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington summoned to attend.

Ordered, therefore, That the Secretary do advise Colonel Caillaud thereof, and summon the Attendance of Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington.

*P. Anyatt,*  
*W. McGuire,*  
*W. Hley,*  
*H. Watts.*

*Fort William, the 7th Oct. 1762.*

*Thursday.*

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The Worshipful *Peter Anyatt*, Esquire, President,  
*William McGuire*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*William Hay*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,  
The Governor unjoined.

The Proceedings of the 4th Instant, on this Subject, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Board met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on Behalf of Colonel Caillaud.

The Board being met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington, on such Questions as Colonel Caillaud might be desirous of putting to them, these Gentlemen were accordingly called in.

Mr. Lushington's Letter. L. R. N° 16.

Mr. Lushington, previous to his Examination, delivers the following Letter, dated this Day.

To the honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council.

"Honourable Sir and Sirs,

"When my Deposition was first taken, I had the strongest Conviction within my own Mind, that either Mr. *Hastings* or Captain *Knox* first interpreted between the Nabob and Colonel Caillaud, in the Affair relative to the Three Seals, and in Consequence of this Conviction deposed so accordingly; but from some Conversations I have lately had with the Colonel and Captain *Knox*, I am fully convinced that Mr. *Hastings* was not present, and that there were only Captain *Knox* and myself with the Colonel; and as Captain *Knox* could not be sufficient Master enough of the Language to manage such a Conversation, of Course there is the greatest Probability that it must have been I alone who interpreted upon the Occasion, and consequently that I opened the Discourse; though I cannot even yet recollect this last Circumstance, and

3 R

"indeed

" indeed it is no Wonder, considering the Length of  
 " Time since the Affair, that many Particulars should  
 " have slipped my Memory.

" I am, with great Respect,

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,

" Your most obedient,

" Humble Servant,

" *Henry Lushington.*"

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington sworn.

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington being duly sworn to answer to the Truth of all such Questions as might be put to them by Colonel Caillaud, or the Board;

[Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Captain Knox, with his Answers.]

Colonel Caillaud presented the following Paper of Questions to be put to Captain Knox; to which, upon their being tendered him, returned the following Answers.

Deposition, N<sup>o</sup> 7.

Colonel Caillaud's Questions to Captain Knox.

From your First Deposition, Sir, taken at *Shawpoor*, you remember being with me that Evening, on the 15th April 1760, at the Nabob's, when I sealed a Paper in Conjunction with him and his Son, relative to the Shazada. You have also remembered, that the Reason of your being with me at that Time was, to be introduced to the Nabobs, in order to take your Leave, as you were then under Orders to march with a Detachment to *Patna*.

1st *Quest*. Can you remember, or recollect, if Mr. Hastings was there the Whole or any Part of the Time that Evening?

2d. Have you any Remembrance, or did it ever come to your Knowledge, either by Report or from my own Information, that Mr. Holwell was then carrying on a Correspondence with the Prince?

3d. Can you recollect from any Part of the Nabob's Conversation, or from any other Circumstances, any Appearance of Distress at that Time in his Situation?

4th. Do you remember any Objections made by you, at that Time, to the Measure, or any Expression of Dislike at it. If you do, be pleased to relate and explain them?

5th. Do you remember or recollect what Reasons I made Use of on the Occasion, to satisfy myself and

Captain Knox's Answers.

*Ans*. I perfectly well remember this Circumstance.

*Ans*. I am positive Mr. Hastings was not there any Part of the Time.

*Ans*. Yes, I remember it from your own Information, and Mr. Holwell likewise informed me, that he had received Letters from the Prince and *Camjar Cam*, when I was in *Calcutta*, a few Days before this Affair happened.

*Ans*. No, I can't recollect any Appearance of Distress from the Nabob's Conversation that Evening; but his distressed Situation was well known to the whole Army, on Account of the Discontentedness of his Troops, and the bad Situation of his Affairs at that Time.

*Ans*. If I made any Objection, it was by saying, "That it was a Pity so fine a young Fellow should fall in that Manner, or Words to that Purpose."

*Ans*. In the first Deposition I have before given in this Affair, I have declared that you did give

you that I was acting properly; and can you recollect that I explained to you the Necessity I was under to give my seeming Concurrency in this Affair?

6th. You can remember and recollect, as it appears in the Course of your Depositions, that I gave it as my firm Opinion and Belief that the Letter was a Forgery, and the whole Transaction a Contrivance of the Nabob's, in order to found our Dispositions towards him.

7th. Can you remember or recollect, amongst the Objections started against the Probability of the Scheme, that the Smallness of the Sum to be given was One amongst them?

8th. Can you remember or recollect making any more Objections after I had given you my Reasons?

9th. Can you recollect or remember that in a laughing Manner I made Use of the following Words, or some to the same Effect, "That I wished your Head was as fate as the Prince's from Danger," alluding to the Service you were then going to be employed on?

10th. Can you remember or recollect that I was very particular in my Enquiries in what Manner this Measure was to be carried into Execution, by what Means and how?

11th. Can you recollect whether any satisfactory Answers were given by the Nabob to those Questions?

12th. Can you recollect or remember if at that Time, or on any other Occasion in which I might make Mention of the Shazaddah in Discourse, in what Manner and in what Terms I was used to express my Sentiments on his Account?

13th. From your long Acquaintance and Knowledge of me, do you think or believe, Sir, that if the Measure had appeared to me at that Time such as could probably or possibly take Place, that I would have consented to it?

Reasons, and what these Reasons were, which I perfectly remember.

*Ans*. I remember your being of Opinion that the Letter was a Forgery, and I remember also your mentioning it several Times that Evening, that you absolutely believed it to be a Forgery.

*Ans*. I remember that the Smallness of the Sum for putting such an Affair in Execution was mentioned as a Reason against the Probability of it.

*Ans*. To the best of my Remembrance I made none.

*Ans*. I have some faint Remembrance that you made Use of such an Expression.

*Ans*. I remember that you made such Enquiries.

*Ans*. No.—I cannot recollect the Nabob's Answers to those Questions.

*Ans*. I have often heard you pity the Shah's Situation, and that you was sorry Circumstances obliged you to act against him.

*Ans*. In the Course of my Acquaintance with you, Sir, I never presumed to form a Thought so much to your Disadvantage.

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Lushington, with his Answers.

Captain Knox having made Answers to the several Questions tendered him; Colonel Caillaud then presented a Paper of Questions to be put to Mr. Lushington, who returned thereto the following Answers.



Deposition, N<sup>o</sup> 8:

Colonel Caillaud's Questions to Mr. Lufington.

1st *Quest.* As it appears by your First Deposition, given at *Patna*, that only Mention is made in it of cutting off the *Sha Zaddah*, pray can you remember or recollect, Sir, that the putting of him in the Nabob's Power was the First Point; the other only an Alternative, in case the First could not be effected?

2d. Can you remember or recollect to have ever heard any Thing upon such a Subject before?

3d. Can you recollect or remember that Evening of the 15th April 1760, when we went together to the Nabob, that some Space of Time after we had been with him, that the *Patna* Jamidars, and all other Attendants, were ordered to withdraw, and that we were afterwards in Private with the Nabob and his Son, and a or 3 more Black People?

4th. Can you recollect or remember Captain *Knox* being with us the whole Time?

5th. Do you remember or recollect a Man by Name *Chuckman*, attendant on the old Nabob?

6th. What was the Man's Office about the Nabob?

7th. Can you remember or recollect what Opinion we entertained of that Man's Character in general?

8th. Do you remember or recollect the above mentioned Person being present the Whole, or any Part, of the Time during that Transaction?

9th. Can you remember or recollect that you made

Mr. Lufington's Answers.

*Ans.* Yes. Upon Recollection I do remember that the Circumstance of putting him into the Nabob's Power was mentioned.

*Ans.* No; to the best of my Remembrance I never did.

*Ans.* I remember that Evening I was some Time employed with the Chutah Nabob, to persuade the *Patna* Jamidars to attend Captain *Knox*, which Circumstance I have mentioned in my First Deposition. I am certain that the *Patna* Jamidars were not there at the Time of Sealing the Paper, nor any more Persons than what I have mentioned in my said Deposition.

*Ans.* To the best of my Remembrance he was there the whole Time.

*Ans.* Yes; I very well remember that Man.

*Ans.* He was in the Station of Head Hircarrah, which implies the Person who has under his Charge all the Hircarrahs, Spies, &c. and through whom their Intelligence passes to the Nabob.

*Ans.* I remember that we always entertained a very bad Opinion of him, though he was employed on both Sides; that is, to convey Intelligence from the Nabob to the Prince's Camp, and bring back Intelligence from thence to the Nabob's; we also thought he had much the Ear of the old Nabob, and by his evil Councils much hurted the Affairs of the Sircar.

*Ans.* I remember seeing him the First of the Evening, and, I think, he was there when the Seal was put to the Paper. Indeed, from the Nature of his Office, it is most likely he was there.

*Ans.* No.—I cannot say that I did.

any Objections, or expressed any Dislike to the Measure which I was then pursuing in Concurrence with the Nabob and his Son?

10th. Have you any Recollection or Remembrance of the Situation of Affairs at that Time, if you have, and as you have perused my Apology—Do you think I have stated them with Truth?

11th. Have you any Knowledge, or can you recollect or recollect, that Mr. *Holwell* was then carrying on a private Correspondence (meaning a Correspondence without the Nabob's Knowledge) with the Prince?

12th. Do you remember or recollect my often expressing your Dislike of Mr. *Holwell's* Proceedings with regard to Way of acting in general towards the Nabob: In particular, my Uneasiness on Account of the above mentioned Correspondence, as likewise his Behaviour in regard to *Reydeolub* and *Nandecmar*?

13th. In the Course of such Conversation as we may have had together about the Prince, can you remember or recollect the Manner in which I used to express my Sentiments of him?

To clear up a Passage in a Letter of Mr. *Holwell's*, dated the 1st April 1760, an Extract of which has been laid before the Board, and in which he says, "The Phirmaund, I suppose, differs little in Matter from that he sent you;" but as I have no Recollection or Remembrance of receiving any such Phirmaund from the Prince, nor no such Transaction appears in the Course of my Evidence,

14th. I desire to know, Sir, if you can remember or recollect my having ever received from the Prince a Paper of such a Nature, of any Sort indeed but Phirmaund, which I received

*Ans.* I remember our Affairs were in a very desperate Situation at that Juncture; many Instances I can give if it is thought necessary that I should; and I really believe that what you have stated, as to the then Situation of Affairs in your Letter to the Board, are Facts.

*Ans.* Yes, I do remember it very well, and you often expressed your Dislike at it, and Apprehensions that it would give the Nabob much Uneasiness, as he undoubtedly would get Intelligence of it; and I have further a faint Idea of a Person's telling me that the Nabob knew of it, which I mentioned to you, but the Person's Name I cannot really remember.

*Ans.* I well remember your often expressing your Dislike of Mr. *Holwell's* Proceedings with regard to the Nabob; and many a Time have we held Conversations on that Subject, how on Account of the above mentioned Correspondence, Company's Affairs that these two Men could not agree.

*Ans.* Whenever you mentioned the Prince you spoke of him with the highest Respect, greatly pitied his Misfortunes, and said you should be much happier if you were going to assist him in mounting the Throne of *Delhi*, than you was then in opposing him.

*Ans.* I do not remember your having received but one Phirmaund, and that was at the Time you specify in the Question, brought to our Camp by Two Moguls, and of which you

ed the Day before the Battle of Cery.

15th. As it appears from your Deposition, Sir, taken at Patna, that you then could recollect but very few Circumstances of the Transaction of that Evening—Could you, do you think, now, charge your Memory with any further Circumstances relative to that Affair, especially since you have seen my Apology, and from our Conversation together with Captain Knox?

16th. Do you think, tho' you cannot assert it from Recollection, that all which Captain Knox and I have advanced in our Account of the Affair is the Truth?

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Hastings, and his Answers.

Colonel Caillaud being desirous of putting a few Questions to Mr. Hastings, he was accordingly sworn, and interrogated as follows.

Deposition, N<sup>o</sup> 9.

Questions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Hastings.

1st Question. As you were at that Time, Sir, in the Field, and in Quality of Resident to the old Nabob, can you remember whether you were present or not that Evening?

2d. You have perused my Apology, Sir, and at that Time, from your Station with the old Nabob, you must have been well acquainted with the Situation of Affairs; Can you recollect if what I have advanced in my Justification on that Subject is a just and true Account?

3d. Had you any Knowledge at that Time of Mr. Holwell's corresponding with the Prince?

4th. Can you remember or recollect that the Nabob ever mentioned the Affair,

you immediately advised the Chutah Nabob.

Ans. The Nature of my Office of Interpreter was such, that I could not give much Attention to the Conversation that might pass between Captain Knox and you; yet since you have refreshed my Memory with regard to some Circumstances which I could not recollect at the Time of giving my First Deposition, Two of which I shall mention; namely, your imagining that the Letter was a Forgery, and that you believed the Nabob wanted to try how sincere you were in your Friendship for him, and what Lengths you would go to serve him.

Ans. I have already said that the Nature of my Office was such as not to admit of my hearing the whole of the Conversation; but I believe Captain Knox and you to be Men of such Honour that you would advance nothing but the Truth.

Mr. Hastings' Answers.

Ans. I was not, to the best of my Knowledge, and I think it could not have escaped my Memory if I had been present at such a Transaction.

Ans. I think it a very just and true Account with respect to the Nabob's Fears, the Clamours of his Army for their large Arrears, and the distressed Situation of his Affairs in general at that Time.

Ans. Not with the Prince, that I remember; but with Camgar Cawn (which in Effect was the same, as he was his Prime Minister) I had, from his own Letters to me, on the Subject of the Arrears, supposed to have been wrote by the old Nabob to the Prince.

Ans. I do not remember that the Nabob mentioned any such Thing to me; that

to you; if not, have you however Reason to believe, from any Circumstances, that he must have been informed of it?

5th. Supposing him then acquainted with it, do you think, from your Knowledge of the Nature and Disposition of the Nabob, whether such an Occurrence at that Time must not have given him great Cause of Jealousy and Discontent?

6th. Can you remember or recollect in any of our Conversations together, at or about that Time, my expressing my Dislike at Mr. Holwell's Conduct in general towards the Nabob, not a Step, as Mr. Holwell was only with regard to the Correspondence which at that Time he was carrying on with the Prince, but also for his Behaviour with regard to *Rajah Doolabram, Rajabram, and Nundecomar*.

7th. Do you remember a Person about the Nabob called *Chucken*, his Employment, and the general Character which he bore.

Questions by Mr. Lybington to Captain Knox, and his Answers.

Mr. Lybington requesting that the Three following Questions might be put to Captain Knox, they were tendered accordingly, upon the Oath he had already taken; and he gave in his Answers thereto as follows:

Deposition, N<sup>o</sup> 10

Questions by Mr. Lybington to Captain Knox.

1st. Are you positive, Sir, that I put the Colonel's Seal with my own Hand to the Paper?

Ans. I am positive that you sent for the Seal, and received it with your own Hand; but I cannot be positive whether you put it with your own Hand to the Paper,

he knew it, and mentioned it to me in Consequence, I think very probable, as I had One, or, if I mistake not, more than One, Conversation with his Mounchey on the Subject of the Letter mentioned above; and I do not remember that he talked of it as a Matter of Secrecy, or that I enjoined him to conceal it.

Ans. It certainly would.

Ans. I can very well remember your expressing a Dislike at Mr. Holwell's corresponding with the Prince, as the Nabob might be equally alarmed at such a Step, as Mr. Holwell was with the Nabob's correspondence with him: Such, I remember, was your Opinion in the Affair; and, I must confess, my own too. With respect to *Roydub, Rajabram, and Nundecomar*, both in the Government of Colonel Clive and Mr. Holwell; it was always my Opinion that the Confidence shewn them, justly gave Cause of Suspicion and Uncauseness to the Nabob, and very probably might have been the Subject of our Conversation at that Time, though at so great a Distance I cannot recollect.

Ans. I remember *Chucken* extremely well; he was the Chief of the Nabob's Hircarais, or Spies, and at that Time in great Trust with him. I had always the worst Opinion of his Honesty, Veracity, or, indeed, of his Understanding.

ad. Do you remember or recollect that I gave the Seal, by order of the Colonel, to the Mounfey to affix it?

Ans. I do not recollect that Particular, but I think it is very probable you might have done so.

Ans. I remember that you retired into a Tent a few Paces distant with the Persons you mention, but you was present the whole Time that this Affair was transacting, and you interpreted the whole Affair between the Nabob and the Colonel.

Board to give their final Opinion on Monday on the Whole of this Enquiry.

The Board taking into Consideration the Subject of these several Evidences, do not see that any more Questions are necessary to be put to the Gentlemen; and therefore

Agree to give their final Opinion on Monday on the whole Matter of this Enquiry.

P. Amyatt,  
W. McGwire,  
W. Hay,  
H. Watts.

Fort William, the 11th October 1762.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

Monday. The honourable Henry Vanfittart, Esquire, President,

Peter Amyatt, Esquire,  
William McGwire, Esquire,  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
William Hay, Esquire,  
Hugh Watts, Esquire.

The Proceedings of the 7th Instant on this Subject, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and signed.

Colonel Caillaud having desired the Opinion of the Board upon the Reasons urged in his Defence or Apology; after a mature Consideration of the said Reasons, and of all Circumstances, It is unanimously agreed and concluded,

That the Representation given in the said Defence, of the State of the Affairs of the Country at that Time, (that is, about the Month of April 1760) is true and just.

That in such Circumstances the Nabob's urgent Account of his own Distresses, the Colonel's Desire of making him easy, as the First Thing necessary for the Good of the Service, and the Suddenness of the Thing proposed, might deprive him for a Moment of his Reflection, and surprize him into an Assent to a Measure, which, as to the Measure itself, he could not approve.

That such only were the Motives which did, or could, influence Colonel Caillaud to assent to the Nabob's Proposal, is fully proved by Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington's Deposition of what passed at the Time.

That we are fully convinced Colonel Caillaud had no

other Interest or View in the Affair than what is mentioned in his Apology: That his Conscience at the Time never reproached him with a bad Design: And therefore, upon the Whole, as we are satisfied his Intentions were good, although he erred in the Measure; we think it should be judged of with Candour, and the proper Allowances made for the difficult Circumstances he had to manage.

Colonel Caillaud wrote to in Consequence.

In Consequence of the above Opinion, Agree we close this Enquiry with the following Letter to Colonel Caillaud:

To John Caillaud, Esquire.

L. S<sup>t</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 12.

"S I R,

"We have received your Letter of the 4th, accompanied with a Memorial, containing a full Narrative of the Transaction which the Company directed to be inquired into, together with the State of the Affairs of the Country at that Time; from whence you have shewn the Motives which occasioned your assenting so far as is there mentioned to that Transaction. Having taken the same into Consideration, together with the Answers of Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington to the Questions proposed to them, we annex hereto a Copy of our Resolutions thereupon; and as we are fully convinced that you had no ill Intentions, so we hope the honourable Court of Directors will in like Manner judge of all the Circumstances attending upon the Measure with Candour, and continue that favourable Opinion towards you, which your long and zealous Services merit.

"With this and all other good Wishes, we remain,

"Sir,

"Your most obedient

"humble Servants."

Captain Knox and Mr. Lushington to return to their Stations.

Ordered, The Gentlemen who have been called from their Stations to attend on this Enquiry, do now return to them with all convenient Expedition.

P. Amyatt,  
W. McGwire,  
W. Hay,  
H. Watts.

Opinion of the Court of Directors, the 1st of June 1763.

"Resolved, unanimously, That this Court are of Opinion, Colonel John Caillaud stands honourably acquitted of any Delign or Intention upon or against the Life of the Shazadah; it sufficiently appearing, that the Motives for suffering his Seal to be inadvertently put to the Agreement, made by the then Nabob of Bengal, Jaffer Ally Khan, on the 15th of April 1760, for the Payment of a Sum of Money for the Seizure or Cutting off that Prince then in Arms against the Provinces under the Administration of the said Nabob, proceeded from the particular Circumstances of Affairs of that Time, his Zeal for the Company's Service, the Suddenness of the Occasion, and a thorough Conviction that it was an Artifice of the Nabob to try the Sincerity of the Company's Attachment to him, and that no ill Consequences would follow therefrom to the Shazadah."

## A P P E N D I X, N° 11.

Extract of General Letter to the Court of Directors, of  
29 December 1759.

Paragraph 147. **H**AVING fully spoken to every Branch of your Affairs at this Presidency under their established Heads, we cannot, consistent with the real Anxiety we feel for the future Welfare of that respectable Body, for whom you and we are in Trust, close this Address without expostulating with Freedom on the unprovoked and general Austerity of your Letter *per Prince Henry Packet*. Our Sentiments on this Head will, we doubt not, acquire additional Weight from the Consideration of their being subscribed by a Majority of your Council, who are at this very Period quitting your Service, and consequently independent and disinterested. Permit us to say, That the Diction of your Letter is most unworthy yourselves and us, in whatever Relation considered, either as Masters to Servants, or Gentlemen to Gentlemen.—Meer Inadvertencies and casual Neglects, arising from an unavoidable and most confounding Confusion in the State of your Affairs, have been treated in such Language and Sentiments, as nothing but the most glaring and premeditated Frauds could warrant.—Groundless Informations have, without further Scrutiny, bore with you the Stamp of Truth, though proceeding from those who had therein obviously their own Purpose to serve, no Matter at whose Expence. These have received from you such Countenance and Encouragement, as must most assuredly tend to cool the warmest Zeal of your Servants here and every where else, as they will appear to have been only the Source of general Reflections thrown out at random against your faithful Servants of this Presidency, in various Parts of your Letter now before us.—Faithful to little Purpose, if the Breath of Scandal, joined to private Pique, or private and personal Attachments, have Power to blow away in one Hour the Merits of many Years Services, and deprive them of that Rank, and those rising Benefits, which are justly a Spur to their Integrity and Application. The little Attention shewn to these Considerations, in the indiscriminate Favours heaped on some Individuals, and undeserved Favours on others,

will, we apprehend, lessen that Spirit of Zeal so very essential to the Well-being of your Affairs, and consequently in the End, if continued, prove the Destruction of them.—Private Views may, it is much to be feared, take the Lead here from Examples at Home, and no Gentlemen hold your Service longer, nor exert themselves further in it, than their own Exigencies require. This being the real present State of your Service, it becomes strictly our Duty to represent it in the strongest Light, or we should with little Truth, and less Propriety, subscribe ourselves,

May it please your Honours,  
Your most faithful Servants,

Fort William,  
29 December 1759.

Robert Clive,  
J. Z. Holwell,  
W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,  
W. McGwire.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal dated  
the 21st January 1761.

Paragraph 1st. We have taken under our most serious Consideration, the General Letter from our late President and Council of Fort William, dated the 29th December 1759, and many Paragraphs therein containing gross Insults upon, and Indignities offered to, the Court of Directors, tending to the Subversion of our Authority over our Servants, and a Dissolution of all Order and good Government in the Company's Affairs: To put an immediate Stop, therefore, to this Evil, we do positively order and direct, that immediately upon the Receipt of this Letter, all those Persons still remaining in the Company's Service, who signed the said Letter of the 29th December 1759; viz. Messieurs John Zephaniab Holwell, Charles Stafford Playdell, William Brightwell Sumner, and William McGwire, be dismissed from the Company's Service; and you are to take Care that they be not permitted, on any Consideration, to continue in India, but that they are to be sent to England by the first Ships which return Home the same Season you receive this Letter.

## A P P E N D I X, N° 12.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal, 19th  
February 1766.

102d Paragraph. **T**HE Copy of a Letter from Mr. John Zephaniab Holwell, dated in London the 13th April 1763, addressed to Mr. John Wallaston at Bengal, has been communicated to us, signifying he had appointed him his Attorney there, for receiving, on his Account, the remaining Part of a Teep or Obligation Mr. Holwell has obtained from the Nabob (*Cessim Ally Khan*) for Two Lacks of Sicca Rupees, whereof he had received before his Departure fifty thousand, as a

grateful Acknowledgement for the Friendship he had shewn him, and cautioning Mr. Wallaston to use all his Prudence and Secrecy in the said Transaction, as were also the subjoined Copies of a Letter, from Mr. James Amys to Mr. Warren Hastings (then in Bengal), dated the 2d of March, desiring to know what Answer should be given to Mr. Holwell, relative to the Obligation above mentioned, which had been left in Mr. Hastings' Management, and of a Letter signed W. H. supposed to be from Mr. Hastings in Reply thereto, without Date, signifying that he had received a Lack of Rupees, and accounted with him for it—Copies of all which, in the Manner they were laid before us, we

now transmit to you, for your further Information in this Affair.

Letter from J. Z. Holwell to Mr. John Wellaſton, dated the 13th April 1763.

Dear Sir,

On my Attornies, Meſſieurs Sumner and Smith, leaving Bengal, they delivered over to Meſſieurs Haſtings and Lyon, my ſucceeding Attornies, all my Affairs (with a clear Statement thereof, amounting in the Whole to 2,03,486. 6, with all neceſſary Extracts from my general Inſtructions) from whom I have not ſince received any Remittances, the *Godolphin* not being yet imported with us.—To guard againſt the Death or Abſence at Subordinates of Meſſieurs Haſtings and Lyon, I have thought it neceſſary to appoint you my ſucceeding Attorney in ſuch Caſe, and incloſe you Powers for that Purpoſe, which I requeſt your ready Acceptance of, and ſhall write to thoſe Gentlemen accordingly.—Another Affair, which will call for all your Prudence and Secrecy, it is needful I ſhould impart to you: After I had reſigned the Service, I had received from the Nabob a Teep or Obligation for Two Lacks Sicca, as a grateful Acknowledgement for the Friendſhip I had ſhewn him.—Fifty thouſand or thereabouts was paid to me before my Departure.—The Particulars *Sunker* and *Weſton* can furniſh you with.—The remaining Balance and the Teep I left to be recovered by Mr. Haſtings, and under his ſole and ſeparate Management, but have not heard one Syllable on the Subject ſince I left him.—If you can by any Means acquire the Knowledge of his having made me any Remittances on this Account, I would not then have you ſpeak to him about it, otherwiſe to requeſt he would let you know what you ſhould write to me on the Subject.

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Friend, and

*London,* obedient Servant,  
Norfolk Street, 13th April 1763. J. Z. Holwell.  
To Mr. John Wellaſton.

Letter from Mr. Anyatt to Mr. Haſtings, and Mr. Haſtings' Answer thereto.

To Warren Haſtings, Eſquire.

S I R,

The Packet being to be cloſed To-morrow, I ſhall be glad to know what Answer muſt be given to Mr. Holwell concerning the Teep or Obligation that was given him by *Coffin Ali Cawn*, and was left by him under your Management.—The Particulars I mentioned to you ſome Time ago, I am,

S I R,

ad March. Your moſt obedient Servant,  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Anyatt.

Mr. Haſtings' Answer to Mr. James Anyatt's Letter.

S I R,

That I have received a Lack of Rupees, and accounted with him for it, which it is probable he knows already.

I am

Your moſt humble Servant,  
W. H.

Fort William, the 12th January 1761.  
Monday.

At a Conſultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanſittart*, Eſquire, Preſident,  
*Peter Anyatt*, Eſquire,  
Lieutenant Colonel *John Caillaud*,  
*William Ellis*, Eſquire,  
*William B. Sumner*, Eſquire,  
*Harry Smyth*, Eſquire,  
*Samuel Waller*, Eſquire,  
*Culling Smith*, Eſquire.

The Governor's Minute.

The Governor lays before the Board a Letter from the Nabob, received laſt Night, with an Order on the *Phouzedar of Hugley*, for 25,000 Rupees, therein mentioned, to be ſent as a Preſent of Congratulation from the Nabob to the Governor, on the Occaſion of the late Birth of his Son.—Mr. *Vanſittart* declares himſelf equally ſenſible of the Nabob's Compliment; but as he rejected for himſelf, and the other Gentlemen of the Committee, all former Propoſals of private Emolument, and has not to this Time received a ſingle Rupee from him; ſo neither will he, while there is a Difficulty remaining, with reſpect either to the Company's Balance or the Arrears due to his own Troops.—He delays therefore, that the ſaid Sum of 25,000 R<sup>l</sup> may be received into the Company's Treſury, in further Part Payment of the outſtanding Balance, and he will ſend up the Nabob's Order to the *Fouzdar of Hugley*, for Payment of that Sum.

Fort William, 8th January 1761.

Thursday.

At a Conſultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanſittart*, Eſquire, Preſident,  
*Peter Anyatt*, Eſquire,  
*William Ellis*, Eſquire,  
*William Brightwell Sumner*, Eſquire,  
*Harry Smyth*, Eſquire,  
*Culling Smith*, Eſquire.

Mr. Anyatt's Minute concerning the Revolution.

Mr. Anyatt takes this Opportunity to obſerve, that he is of Opinion, the Reaſons given for depoſing of *Jaffer Aly Cawn* (for he can look upon it in no other Light) are far from being ſufficient to convict him of Breach of Faith; conſequently in the Eyes of the World, the whole Odium of ſuch a Proceeding muſt retort upon ourſelves. The Cruelties of which he is accuſed, muſt to a civilized Government appear ſhocking; but in deſpotic ones, there are none entirely free from Inſtances of this Kind, as their own Fears and Jealouſies are ever prompting them to ſuch unwarrantable Actions; and it is well known, that the preſent Nabob has already fallen into the ſame Severities, as likewiſe, that he has ſhewn Marks of Favour to thoſe Miniſters, who, we are told, “ ſaw with an evil Eye the Influence of the Company, and readily ſnatched at any Occaſion to reduce it.” *Meer Jaffer* being confirmed by the Court at *Delly* in the Subahſhip, was a very valuable Conſideration, which ought not to have been overlooked, becauſe whenever that diſtracted State is reſtored to Peace and Tranquillity, he being legally in Poſſeſſion of the Government, would of Courſe be confirmed by the reigning King, without Heſitation; whereas the obtaining ſo great a Favour for *Coffin Aly Khan* muſt be attended with both Difficulty and Expence. The Treaty ſubſiſting between us and *Coffin Aly Cawn*, plainly ſhews, that his ſole Aim, at the Time of entering into it, was the Subahdarry of Bengal; otherwiſe how ridiculous was it for him to make a Promise of ceding certain Countries to the Company, which his Poſt of Duan could never have given him the Power of executing. The great Advantages expected to accrue from theſe Countries, it is feared will prove merely imaginary, as it is now near Three Months ſince their Revolution was effected; and yet ſo far from any Appearance of extricating ourſelves from the Difficulties, as expected, we are involved in freſh Troubles every Day, which will not appear ſtrange, when we caſt our Eyes upon the Perſon we have raiſed to the Muſnud, whole Character was never conſpicuous in any Light till lately, and whole treacherous Behaviour to his Attachment to our Interelt; nor indeed can it be expected, that he

will place any Confidence in us, who have assented to dethrone a Man we were bound to support by the most solemn Ties, divine and human; such a Breach of Faith must necessarily occasion the Loss of our Influence in this Country, and bereave us of that Superiority which our steady Adherence to our Promise ever gave us over these People. For the above Reasons, Mr. *Ellis* dissents to the whole Transaction, and further declares, that he never was consulted nor advised with concerning it, nor did he know that it was even intended, till public Report had informed him of its Execution.

Mr. *Ellis's* Minute.

Mr. *Ellis's* Sentiments with regard to the Revolution, agree entirely with Mr. *Amey's*, and he dissents to it for the same Reasons.

Mr. *Smyth's* Minute.

Mr. *Smyth* is of the same Opinion likewise as Mr. *Amey*, as he has once already intimated to the Board.

Letter to the honourable the Secret Committee, dated 11th March 1762.

To the honourable the Secret Committee, for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. It gives us the greatest Concern to be obliged to address you in the Manner we are now under the Necessity of doing; but as we have publicly declared our Dissent from the late Revolution in the Kingdom of Bengal, and expressed our entire Disapprobation of the Measures pursued consequent thereto; it is our Duty to acquaint you with our Reasons for having differed in Opinion from the Gentlemen who were accessory to that Revolution, lest ill-minded People should represent our Opposition as a Faction, instead of owing its rise, as it really does, to our strict Regard to what we think conducive to the Honour of our Country, and the Interests of our Employers. Had the whole Board been consulted, we dare assert this Measure would have been rejected by the Majority, and we humbly refer to you, whether the Opinion of every Member thereof ought not to have been taken by the President, before he ventured upon to bold a Step as the Subversion of a Government.

2. You were informed last Year, of the surprising Revolution in Favour of *Mir Mahammed Cossim Aly Chan*, which would necessarily be represented in the most favourable Light, by the Gentlemen who promoted it. But whatever Judgment you may have been led to entertain of the Measure from their Account of it, we cannot but think you will judge as ill of it as we do, when you are truly informed of the Circumstances with which it was attended, the Manner in which it was executed, and the Steps that have been since taken to support it; of these we will give you as succinct an Account as possible.

3. At a Time when there was not the least Appearance of a Rupture or Disgust between us and the Nabob *Jaffer Aly Cawn*; on the contrary, a Friendship and Harmony subsisted, *Mir Cossim Chan*, his Son in Law, came down to Calcutta on some Pretence or other to visit Mr. *Vanfittart*; and having staid a short Time, he returned to *Mooredabad*. A few Days after *Mir Cossim's* Departure, Mr. *Vanfittart* went up to *Mooredabad* on the Pretence of a Visit to the Nabob; Colonel *Cailland*, with a Party of Two hundred Europeans, and some *Sepoys*, attended him, who, to remove the Suspicion which such a Force would have necessarily occasioned, it was pretended were going up to *Patna* to reinforce the Army there. When Mr. *Vanfittart* arrived at *Moradabang*, the Nabob paid him Two

Visits, at the last of which Mr. *Vanfittart*, without any previous Notice of his Intentions, gave him the Three Letters mentioned in Consultation of the 10th November 1760, of which Copies have been transmitted you. The Abruptness with which these Letters were presented him, one close upon the other, and the unexpected Proposals contained in them, terrified the Nabob, and he was entirely at a Loss how to act, but desired Time to consider on what was to be done. Mr. *Vanfittart* seeing his Perplexity, strongly insisted on his immediately naming some Person from among his Relations to take Charge of the Subahship, and very particularly recommended *Cossim Aly Chan*, who was sent for, and the Nabob was desired to stay till he came; but *Cossim Aly Chan* delayed so long, and the Nabob was in such Anxiety of Mind, and so desirous to be released from the Visit, being greatly fatigued, that Mr. *Vanfittart* was obliged, in order to save Appearances, to suffer his Departure to the Palace, after having detained him much longer than his Inclination: That Night and the Day following passed in concerning Measures with *Cossim Aly Chan*, how to put in Execution the Plan before agreed on in Calcutta; a Treaty having been signed for this Purpose in September 1760, while *Cossim Aly Chan* was down here: In Consequence of these Deliberations, our Troops clandestinely crossed the River the next Night, under Colonel *Cailland*, and being joined by *Cossim Aly Chan* and his Party, surrounded the Nabob's Palace: A Letter from Mr. *Vanfittart* was sent in to the Nabob, demanding his immediate Compliance with what had been proposed to him; to which the Nabob returned for Answer, "That such Usage was what he never expected from the English; that whilst a Force was at his Gates he would enter into no Terms, and that it was his Desire, our Troops might be returned to *Moradabang*." A Message was then sent in, informing the Nabob, that if he did not directly comply, they should be obliged to storm the Palace. Astonished and terrified by this Menace, he opened the Gates, exclaiming, "That he was betrayed; that the English were guilty of Perjury and Breach of Faith; that he perceived their Designs against his Government; that he had Friends enough to hazard at least One Battle in his Defence; but although no Oaths were sacred enough to bind the English, yet as he had sworn to be their faithful Friend, he would never swerve from his Engagement, and rather suffer Death than draw his Sword against them." So suspicious was he of being sold, that "he desired to know what Sum of Money *Cossim Aly Chan* was to give for the Subahship, and he would give Half as much more to be continued: He hoped however, if they intended to dethrone him, they would not leave him to the Mercy of his Son-in-law, from whom he feared the worst, but rather wished they would carry him from the City, and give him a Place of Safety in Calcutta." This last Request of the Nabob's, the Effect of his Fear and Despair, was immediately laid hold of, and construed in the Light of a voluntary Resignation. Accordingly our Troops took Possession of the Palace, *Mir Cossim Chan* was raised to the Musnud, and the old Nabob was hurried into a Boat, with a few of his Women and Necessaries, and sent away to Calcutta in a Manner wholly unworthy of the high Rank he had so lately held, as is also the scanty Subsidance allowed him here by his Successor.

4. Thus was *Jaffer Aly Chan* deposed, in Breach of a Treaty founded upon the most solemn Oaths, and in Violation of the national Faith; a Prince of whose Friendship and Attachment you have had many signal Proofs, in whose Cause our Arms have with much Honour been employed, and by a firm Adherence to whom the English had acquired, throughout the whole Country, so universal a Character of Fidelity and Constancy, that the most perfect Confidence was placed by the Natives in them.

5. The Advantages to be reaped by the Company from the Revolution were the Grant of the Zemindaries of *Burdwan*, *Midnapoor*, and *Chittagong*, the Payment of the Balance due from Nabob *Jaffer Aly Chan*, with a Present of Five Laack of Rupees from *Cossim Aly Chan*, towards defraying the Expenses of the War against the *French* on the Coast of *Choromandel*; of these Mr. *Vansittart* on his Return to *Calcutta*, acquainted the Board, and at the same Time, in Justification of his Proceedings, laid before them a Memorial; Copies whereof were transmitted to you by the Ships of the last Season.

6. This Memorial is introduced with a List of Crimes laid to *Jaffer Aly Chan's* Charge, which to those unacquainted with the Eastern Governments will appear deserving of the highest Repentment from a civilized Nation; yet such is the State of Politics in every *Asiatic* Court, that through the Apprehensions of the Sovereign, and the Intrigues and Artifices of the great Men about him, Instances of Cruelty and Oppression are but too frequent; and even the most beloved among them are too much to be taxed with committing, or at least conniving at, Acts of Violence; but it should be considered that many of these are done by Persons in Power without their Knowledge, and that as there are no regular Punishments for Criminals of Station, and who may be so powerful that it would be dangerous proceeding openly against them, Recourse is often had to the Dagger or Poison to punish the guilty. This was the Case in most of the Instances alleged against *Jaffer Aly Chan*, none of which show greater Proofs of Cruelty than that which *Cossim Aly Chan* discovered; when being in Possession of the Palace, he was desirous of making the first Act of his Power the Assassination of *Jaffer Aly Chan* therein, and was very much displeased when he found we intended to give him Protection at *Calcutta*. Since his Accession to the Subadarree, we could produce to you numberless Instances of his Extortions and Cruelties, but that it would run us into an exorbitant Length, and he seems to have made the more immediate Objects of his ill Usage, those who had been the most avowed Friends of the *English*. We shall only particularize *Ramnaram*, whom he dispossessed of the Naibship of *Pctua*, in which it was always thought sound Policy in us to support him, on Account of his approved Faith; and he now keeps him in Irons till he has been sateed to the utmost, when there is no Doubt he will be dispatched; most, if not all those, who espoused the *English* Interest, have been laid under the heaviest Contributions, and many have died under the Force of the Torture to exact Money from them; others have been either basely murdered, or (which is a common Practice amongst *Gentoos*) unable to sur vive the Loss of Honour, have made away with themselves.

7. It is insinuated in the Memorial, that the Nabob's Avarice and Cruelty had made him the Detestation of all good Men, and that he was in the Hands of bad Ministers, under whose Mal Administration the Country was greatly oppressed; as an Instance whereof, the Scarcity of Grain at the City is produced. To these Ministers are ascribed the great Difficulties the Nabob laboured under for Want of Money to answer the Expenses of the Government, and to pay the Army, rendered mutinous for Want of their Arrears; besides which intestine Danger, the Provinces were threatened an Invasion by the Shahzadah with a powerful Army, and several of the Rajahs and Zemyn-dars were on the Point of revolting: To encounter all which there was nothing but a disaffected Army. Mr. *Vansittart* appeals to every By-stander for the Truth of these Facts, and of the imminent Peril to which the Country was exposed; he declares his Intentions were only to remove the bad Ministers; for which Purpose he carried up with him the Party of *Europeans* and *Sepoys*: He proceeds to set forth the Manner in which the old Nabob was removed from the Government, and *Cossim*

*Aly Chan* raised. He says, People in general were pleased with the Revolution, and makes a Merit of its being effected without the least Disturbance in the City, or a Drop of Blood split. He concludes, with representing the Anxiety the Nabob expressed to get from the City through Fear of *Cossim Aly Chan*; and observes, that he appeared pretty easy and reconciled to the Loss of his Power, which he owned to be rather a Burthen than a Pleasure, and too much for his Abilities to manage since the Death of his Son; and that the Enjoyment of the rest of his Days in Security, under the *English* Protection, seemed to be the chief Object of his Wishes.

8. It is very natural for any Person who takes an uncommon Step, to endeavour to vindicate himself by the most specious Arguments, and the most plausible Reasoning he can devise, and nothing less could be expected from Mr. *Vansittart*, after having brought about so unprecedented a Revolution. He has told his Story with all the Aggravations the Nature of it would admit; notwithstanding which, we do not imagine the Reasons he has given in Support of so violent a Measure, will prove satisfactory to the World. He takes great Pains to blacken *Mir Jaffer's* Character, in order to prejudice Mens Minds against him, and lays great Stress upon the Scarcity of Grain in the City; but we apprehend Mr. *Vansittart* does not judge so harshly from that Circumstance, after what he has himself experienced last Year: for, notwithstanding all the Care we are not to doubt he has taken, Grain was never known so scarce in *Calcutta* before, inasmuch that Numbers daily perished.

9. Want of Money was the great Difficulty the Nabob laboured under; but this did not proceed from any Fault of his, but from the distracted State in which the Country had been ever since Colonel *Clive's* Departure, so that a very small Part of the Revenues came into his Treasury; the *Burdwan* and *Nudda* Countries were assigned over to the Company for the Payment of the Nabob's Debt; *Midnapoor*, the Frontier to the South West, was over-run by the *Morattas*; *Beerboon*, and other *Zamyn-daries*, with the Province of *Purnea*, under *Kuddum Hussen Chan*, were affected towards the Shahzadah, who had under Contribution the whole Province of *Baker*, except the City of *Patna*, and a small District around it; *Chittagong*, the Eastern Barrier, did little more than defend itself against the Incursions of the *Muggs*, Inhabitants of *Aruacan*, who used every Year to come into *Bengal* for Plunder. There remained only the *Dacca* Province; the Districts round *Morshedabad*; the *Radhy* and *Dinageepoor* Countries, to supply the immense Expence of the War; and here lay the Nabob's Districts, that with one Fourth Part, if so much, of the accustomed Revenues, he was obliged to maintain an Army greater than any Nabob did before him, and the *English* Army was not the least considerable Part of the Burthen; for trulling most to them, he paid them First, which Preference was the Cause of Discontent to the Country Troops: And tho' the Force we had in the Field against an Enemy whom Colonel *Clive* had but a very short Time before drove out of the Country, far exceeded those the Colonel had with him, yet no material Advantage was gained over them, but the Country was over-run, and ravaged by them; and by frequent Marches and Countermarches, our own Armies became as destructive as those of the Invaders. No Wonder then at the perilous Condition, to which *Mir Jaffer* was reduced, to extricate him from which it behoved us to exert our utmost Abilities; instead whereof he was treated with the greatest Indignity by us, and basely turned out of his Government.

10. To remove bad Counsellors from a Prince is certainly meritorious, but it does not seem to us that any Thing was ever designed against the Nabob's Ministers; on the contrary, that the sole Intention was to displace

displace the Nabob himself, is pretty evident, by the Treaty before mentioned in *Calcutta*. Had there been the least Attempt to convince him in a friendly Manner of any Errors in his Administration, or of the Necessity of dismissing from his Presence those who ill advised him, it is not to be doubted he would have hearkened to Reason. That he was not obdurate against good Advice, may be concluded from the extraordinary Influence which Colonel *Clive* had over him; in Proof whereof we need only call to Mind how violently he was incited against *Rajah Rammorain*, and *Roy-dulub*; yet the Colonel, by gentle Methods, without having Recourse to any other Force than that of Persuasion, perfectly reconciled him to the former, and obtained his Permission for the latter to reside at *Calcutta*, and bring thither with him his Family and Effects.

11. The People in general, very far from being pleased with the Revolution (as alleged in the Memorial) were extremely diffatisfied thereat. Had *Cassim Ally Chan* been before in fifteen among them, or possessed any Share of Influence or Power, they might perhaps have overlooked the Circumstance of his Rise, and a Series of popular Actions might in Time have reconciled them to the Uturpation; but he was despised and disliked before he came to the Mufnud, and his Behaviour since, has been so oppressive and tyrannical, that it could not fail confirming the public Hatred of him.

12. The little Disturbance at *Morshedabad* upon the Occasion proceeded from the Apprehensions all Degrees of People were under from so large a Force being brought into the City in the Dead of Night; and *Mir Jaffer*, no Way suspicious of the Faith of the *English*, had taken no Precautions for his own Security: Such is the Superiority of our Arms, and so great the Dread of our Forces in this Country, that had we gone openly to Work, we should have met with little or no Difficulty, which renders our having proceeded by Stealth and Treachery the more inexcusable; and we are truly sorry to have Occasion to observe, that the Means by which this Measure was brought about, have thrown an indelible Stain upon our national Character, and injured us as much in the Opinion of the Natives, as of all the *European* Colonies in this Part of the World.

13. It is asserted in the Memorial, That *Mir Jaffer* was ealy under the Loss of his Power, which he is said to have owned to have been rather a Burthen to him; but it is evident, on the contrary, from his Declarations since, and his Letters to the Company and Colonel *Clive*, that he was very unwilling to part with his Government, and that he greatly regrets the Deprivation of it. He was necessitated indeed to submit; and in Hopes of being redressed some Time or other by the Company, judging that such a Step could never be approved of at Home, he very wisely chose, rather than trust himself with his Son-in-Law, to wait patiently for that Redress in Safety at *Calcutta*: So far he might appear resigned to his Fate; yet this can never be construed as an Abdication of his Government, though it has been indolently endeavoured to make the World look upon it in that Light.

14. We have now, honourable Sirs, laid before you a true Account of the Revolution. The Projectors perhaps thought the Advantages it was to bring the Company would be a sufficient Attonement for the Measure, and ensure them the Approbation of their Masters. It is true the Company have a considerable Addition of Territory, and do now receive a large yearly Revenue; but as great, if not greater Advantages, might have been procured by more honourable Means; and the present tranquil State of the Country, which secures to the Company, as well as the Nabob, the full Enjoyment of their Revenues, is not the Effect of *Mir Jaffer Chan's* Nabobship, but of an

Event which would equally have happened had *Jaffer Ally Chan* been continued on the Mufnud, as can be easily made to appear.

15. Soon after *Cassim Ally Chan* was fixed in the Nabobship, the Company were nominally invested with the Zemyndaries of *Burdwan*, *Midnapoor*, and *Chittagong*, and only nominally; for our first Demands upon the Two former of these, for the Payment of the Revenues, were refused.

16. So had an Impression of us did the Revolution create in the Minds of the Country People, that the *Burdwan* Rajah, who, in *Jaffer Ally Chan's* Time, had often expressed his earnest Desire that the Company might continue to collect the Revenues of his District, as they had all along done on Account of the Tunc-kaws, and that they would procure the Zemyndarie for themselves from the Nabob; yet after the Breach of our Faith to the old Nabob, concluding no Reliance was to be placed on our Engagement, he immediately flew off from his former Declarations, and instead of acquiescing under our Government, he began to act in open Rebellion; he stopped our Trade, raised a large Force, invited the *Morattas* into his Country, withheld the Payment of his Revenues, and acting in Conjunction with the *Berboon* Rajah, he eluded the Caute of the Shahzadah, with whom he entered in a Correspondence.

17. Several other Zamyndars, who had remained quiet whilst *Jaffer Ally Chan* was Nabob, now finding the Government overlet, thought themselves at Liberty to withdraw their Allegiance, and would not acknowledge *Mir Cassim*, but joined the Shahzadah, whose Party by their frequent Defections was strengthened with Supplies, both of Troops and Money, and whose Followers were greatly encouraged by his having been able to maintain his Ground, and continue in our Dominions, the whole preceding Campaign, in Defiance of the *English* Army.

18. The Nabob's Troops were rendered quite mutinous by the News of the Revolution; they declared they knew nothing of *Cassim Ally Chan*, and that now they had lost their old Master, they were without Hopes of being paid any Part of the immense Arrears due to them; and nothing less than the extraordinary Affiduity and Influence of Mr. *Amyatt*, who was then Chief at *Patna*, could have prevented them from proceeding to Extremities.

19. In this Situation were Things when Colonel *Caillaud* left *Patna*, and Major *Carnac* received the Command of the Army from him: The Major saw it was impossible for the Country to support it self against such a Combination of Difficulties, and that if a decisive Blow was not soon struck, the Shah could not fail to have immediate Possession of all: He therefore determined to bring the Prince to an Action as speedily as possible; and after securing *Patna* by a Garrison, to prevent its being plundered by that Rabble of Troops, whose Duty it was to defend it, he pushed on with the *English* Army as fast as he could toward the Prince. He came up with him Three Days March from the City, the Consequence of which brought on an Action, wherein he gained a complete Victory, and reduced the Shah in a few Days after to the Necessity of putting himself under the Protection of the *English*. The Major's Success, as it put an End to the Hopes of all the rebellious Rajahs and Zamyndars, so it at once quelled all Commotions, and established the so long wished for Tranquillity in the Country; and the different Provinces were now brought into Order, and rendered in a Condition to pay their respective Revenues; the Nabob's Treasury was enriched, and he was enabled to discharge the Arrears of his Army, and to advance the Money he had engaged to pay the Company.

20. Whatever Merit there is then in the present Tranquillity, is to be ascribed to our Success against the Prince, which, by putting an End to the War in



in the Country, reduced it to a State of perfect Obedience; and as all the old Nabob's Difficulties proceeded from his Dominions being the Seat of War, and the Default of his Revenues on that Account, there is not the least Doubt, had our Arms met with the same Success during his Government, but that he would have extricated himself with equal Ease.

21. After what has been set forth, we believe few will imagine that *Mir Jaffier* was deposed by Reason either of a Want of Ability to rule, or of his bad Principles. We would willingly indeed suppose that it proceeded rather from the Want of a true Knowledge of the Country Policy, and from an Error of Judgment, than from lucrative Views, had not Mr. *Vansittart*, and others of the Projectors, made no Secret that there was a Present promised them by *Cassim Ali Chan*, of Twenty Laack: 'Tis true they make a Merit that this was not to be delivered till the Company's Debt was paid, and his Army satisfied. We have to observe on this Occasion, that several of us have had Offers from the Nabob of very considerable Sums to join in his Measures, which we have constantly made public, as well as refused; and if we, who have always opposed those Measures, have been thus tried with pecuniary Temptations, what may be concluded of those Gentlemen, who have supported the Nabob on every Occasion?

22. If the Nabob had purchased the Power he is invested with, it is to be expected he will of course make the most of it, by extorting Money from his Subjects, and oppressing every Province as much as he can; and as the Fate of *Jaffier Ali Chan* must have convinced him how little we regard the most sacred Engagements, he will of Necessity endeavour to establish himself on a Foundation less precarious than the Friendship of the *English*. That he already begins to do so is evident from his still increasing the Number of his Troops (notwithstanding the present Tranquillity) and to render them the more formidable, he is arming and disciplining as many *Sepoys* as he can procure in the *European* Manner; and to secure himself as much as possible from us, esteeming his Capital, *Morshedabad*, (the Scene of his Predecessor's Fall) too near our Settlements, he is about erecting a large Fort at *Rajab-maul*, which he proposes to make his Place of Residence, where he hopes to be out of our Reach.

23. When any Member of the Board suggests that the Nabob's Behaviour argues a Suspicion of us, for that if he really confided in, and sincerely regarded, us, he would not put himself to the unnecessary Expence of keeping so large an Army in Pay, nor treat to ill those who are avowedly our Friends; it is replied, "The Nabob is Master of his Country, and "being independent of us, is at Liberty to rule and act "as he pleases." But surely *Cassim Ali Chan* cannot be more so than his Predecessor was; and if it be true that the Nabob of *Bengal* is independent of the *English*, and Master of his own Actions, how can the Gentlemen justify their Proceedings against *Mir Jaffier*, whom they called to so severe an Account, for the Administration of his own Government, as to depose him, though he had not been guilty of any Offence to our Nation, nor ever deviated from his Treaty?

24. Instead of checking the overgrowing Power of the present Nabob, it is daily promoted; and he has even the absolute Command of our Army at *Patna*; the Chief there having Directions to let him have what Number of our Troops he pleases to demand, without being allowed to judge of the Nature of the Service for which they are demanded. This you will observe, honourable Sirs, in the Instructions given to Mr. *Ellis*, dated the 22d September last, and in the Consultation of the same Day, where some of our Opinions on that Procedure are entered.—We cannot help expressing how much we fear, that an ill Use will be made by him of this Power over our Forces, and that they will, sooner or later, be employed for such Pur-

poses, as will render us more odious to the whole Country, bring greater Discredit upon our Arms, and reflect farther Dishonour upon our Nation.

25. Notwithstanding this zealous Attachment to *Cassim Ali Chan*, there can be no Reason to hope he will act the Part of a faithful Ally towards us: What Dependence can be had on a Person who so readily entered into the Scheme of deposing, not only his lawful Master, but his Patron, under whose immediate Care he was brought up; who shewed so much Disloyalty to his natural Sovereign, the King of *Hondostan*, as to evade even acknowledging him, till he was in a Manner obliged to it by our repeated Desires, and who betrays a continual Disrull of those who have appeared any Way attached to us?

26. The Nabob's unclutful Behaviour to the King, proceeded in great Measure from his Jealousy of the Regard we professed for him, and his fears that we should reduce his Authority, by subjecting the Subahship to its primitive Dependence on the Mogul, and obliging him to pay the Royal Revenues: He therefore set every Engine to work to create a Rupture between us; he endeavoured to make the King uneasy, and to instill Notions into him, of his being in Danger from us, in order to get him out of the Country; he excited a Mutiny in the King's Camp, which, had it not been for the timely Assistance sent by Major *Carnac*, might have proved fatal to his Majesty; he repeatedly urged Mr. *Vansittart* to dismiss him, and forged Letters to himself and the President, as from the King, complaining of being forcibly detained by the Major, and expressing his Anxiety in not being allowed to leave the Country: That these Letters were forged, his Majesty hath solemnly declared by an Attestation under his own Hand, and testified his Abhorrence of so infamous a Proceeding. The Nabob however at last so far prevailed, by Corruption, and intriguing with some of the Courtiers, as to bring about what he had so much at Heart; the King's being sent away without receiving any Assistance from us, or being paid any Part of the Revenues of this Subahship. This rebellious Behaviour of the Nabob justly incensed the King, who declared that he would not suffer him to continue in his Subahship, whenever he had Power sufficient to prevent it.

27. His Majesty, before his Departure, gave the most unquestionable Proof of his Hatred to *Cassim Ali Chan*, and of his Esteem for the *English*, by the voluntary Offer he made them of the Dewanny of *Bengal*. This Post is the Collection of the Revenues of all the Provinces subject to the Nabob, which are to be accounted for with the Court of *Delly*. It differs from the Subadarree; the latter being the Command of the Troops, and the Charge of the Jurisdiction in the Provinces; the Expences whereof are paid out of the Revenues by the Dewany. It was formerly a separate Office, but the Nabobs of *Bengal*, taking Advantage of the late Commotions in the Empire, have assumed it to themselves: From the Nature of the Office it is evident that the King, distrusting the Nabob, intended that we should be a Check upon him, and be answerable for the Revenues, no Account of which he could get from *Cassim Ali Chan*, who detained them for his own Use. This Appointment would have brought the Company about Fifteen Laacks Yearly, exclusive of the Lands of *Burdwan*, *Midnapoor*, and *Chittageng*, which his Majesty also offered to confirm to them, and to establish their Interest and Influence, not only in these Provinces, but as far as the City of *Delly* itself, to which Place our Commerce might then, with the usual Safety, have been extended.

28. It is hard to conceive, why so honourable and advantageous an Offer should be rejected: It is alleged, it would be the Source of continual Disputes between us and the Nabob, and occasion too great a Diminution of his Power; but surely this Consideration, admitting

it to be true, ought not to stand in Competition with the Honour and Interests of the Company, which would be greatly promoted by such an Appointment: What renders this Refusal the more extraordinary, is, that it is well known, Application was made to the King, soon after Mr. *Vansittart's* Arrival, in *Jaffier Aly Chan's* Time, for the Sunats or Grants of the Province of *Bengal*, which were actually drawn out to be sent to us; but the Revolution, in Favour of *Coffin Aly Chan*, taking Place in the Interim, an entire Stop was put to the Negotiation.

29. The Nabob was so inveterate against all those Natives, who were known to be in our Interest, that he used his utmost Endeavours to prevail on Colonel *Coote* and Major *Carnac*, to consent to his proceeding to the most unjustifiable Severities against them, particularly against *Rajah Rammurain*; having offered the Colonel Five Lacks of Rupees, provided he would concur in the Delivance of that unhappy Man, who has since been given up to him by the Board; the Colonel's Refusal of this Money, we are well convinced, was the Motive of his (the Nabob's) unjust Suspicion or Reluctance against him, which appears not only by the Colonel's Letters, on the Face of the Proceedings of the Board, but also by *Coffin Aly Chan's* own Declaration to him, that he could not be his Friend unless he received his Present.

30. The same Spirit of Reluctance which actuated the Nabob against Colonel *Coote*, was equally strong against Major *Carnac*, whom he also endeavoured to buy over, to serve his Ends, but in vain. The Nabob saw, with a jealous Eye, the many distinguishing Marks of Favour the King conferred on him, and would fain have made a Breach between them; which not being able to effect, he wrote several Letters of Complaint against him to the President, who, from Prejudice, was too much inclined to believe them, and sought all Opportunities of blaming his Conduct at the Board, and of putting the worst Construction upon all his Endeavours for the Public Service, of which many Instances could be produced.

31. A flagrant Injustice was done Major *Carnac*, in calling him away from *Patna*, when the Detachment still left there was large enough to render it a Command adequate to his Rank, and where he might have been of Service; whereas his Preference was unnecessary at *Calcutta*, as the Colonel was going down.

32. A very signal Insult, offered by *Coffin Aly Chan* to the *English* Nation, was the intercepting, by his Order, a Letter which Major *Carnac*, when commanding the Army, had wrote to the King, which the Nabob opened, and sent to the President. This Letter, with others from the Nabob, was minuted in Consultation of the 5th *August*, and it was insinuated to contain Proof of a Plot concerted between the Colonel, Major, *Rammurain*, and *Sitabray*, to create a fresh Revolution. Much Pains were taken to find out mysterious Meanings in the Letter, and Hints were thrown out to prepossess the Board, that such a Combination was actually on Foot; however, after the closest Scrutiny into the Letter, and the strictest Examination of *Sitabray*, who was called down from *Patna* for that Purpose, the Board gave it unanimously as their Opinion, that there were not the least Grounds to suppose any such Combination; the Ridicule whereof was so conspicuous, that we do not imagine even those, who so seriously promoted the Enquiry, could ever have believed it.

33. The material Part of this Letter related to an Application which the Major (by Colonel *Coote's* Directions) made to the King, to be put in Possession of some Port in *Shujab Dewla's* Country, upon the *Ganges*; which, had our Troops attended his Majesty, as we must have marched through *Shujab Dewla's* Territories, would have been absolutely necessary for a Place of Arms, and to keep up our Communication: The Stopping such a Letter, or indeed any one, from a

Person in so public a Character as the Major then was, might be of the most fatal Consequence, was also a public Affront, and one that never was before offered by any Nabob; yet no Satisfaction has ever been obtained from him, although wrote to so publicly on that Head.

34. You will now, honourable Sirs, be able to compare the present, with the preceding Government; so momentous a Step, as subverting the former one, we conceive, ought not to have been undertaken till after the most mature Deliberation, and from a thorough Knowledge of the Country, its Connections, and Interests; but this was far from being the Case; Mr. *Vansittart* had only been Three Months in *Bengal*, and in so short a Space of Time, can hardly be supposed to have acquired to perfect a Knowledge of Matters as to be able to determine, that it was absolutely necessary to annul a Treaty, which had been ratified in the most solemn Manner by Admiral *Watson* and Colonel *Clive*, together with a regularly authorized Select Committee, guaranteed by the Credit of the Company, and the Honour of the Nation.

35. The Gentlemen who were the Promoters of this Revolution, have coincided remarkably in each other's Opinion during the last Year's Consultations; in Return, the President has not failed to shew them Partiality, of which we will give you a remarkable Instance: Notwithstanding, in your Letter to this Presidency dated 21st *January* 1761, you were pleased, in the most positive Terms, to order the Dismission of Messrs. *Sumner*, *Playdell*, and *Mac Gwire*; yet on the 10th *August*, when, in Consequence of *Mac Gwire's* Dismission, Mr. *Ellis* was appointed Chief at *Patna*, Mr. *Vansittart* proposed in Council, that Mr. *Mac Gwire* should remain in the Chiefship till Mr. *Ellis's* Arrival, which could not be effected in less than Two Months; the Question was absolutely put to the Board, but carried in the Negative, the other Gentlemen not chusing to be guilty of so glaring a Deviation from their Masters Orders; and at Mr. *Vansittart's* Desire, this Proposal of his own was not entered on the Face of that Consultation. Here it will be necessary also to observe, that Mr. *Holwell*, after the honourable Company had shewn him so plain a Mark of their Displeasure, as to remove him from the Chair to Seventh in Council, at first wavered whether to continue in the Service or not, till (as he declared) he had a private Conference with Mr. *Vansittart*, after which he remained in both Council and Select Committee, till the very Day on which Mr. *Vansittart* took Leave of the Board to proceed to *Morshedabad*, in order to execute the Plan which had been formed; and then Mr. *Holwell* resigned.

36. The *Armenian* Ministers of the Revolution, *Cojab Petrice*, and *Cojab Gregory*, are in the highest Degree of Favour with the Nabob and his Adherents; the former resides in *Calcutta*, retained by *Coffin Aly Chan*, a known Spy upon every Transaction of the *English*; of which he never fails to give his Master the most regular Intelligence, as was too apparent to both Colonel *Coote* and Major *Carnac*, when they were at *Patna*. The latter of these *Armenians* has Posts of the greatest Trust near the Nabob's Person; and through the Means of these Men, the *Armenians* in general are setting up an independent Footing in the Country, are carrying on a Trade greatly detrimental to our Investments in all Parts, and commit daily Acts of Violence, which reflect no small Odium on the *English*, who are supposed to encourage their Proceedings.

37. It is this System of Administration which we have constantly opposed, as thinking your Affairs could not possibly prosper under it; and you will now be able to account for the many Differences at the Board, which will appear through the Course of our Consultations, and which will doubtless surprize you till the real Cause is known; as we have hitherto denied our Assents to Measures, because we deemed them

them contrary to your Interests, though the adopting them would have turned out greatly to our private Emoluments, so you may rest assured it shall ever continue an invariable Maxim with us to make your Honour and Advantage the sole Object of our Attention.

38. You have been acquainted, honourable Sirs, that the King has applied for our Assistance to settle him on the Throne, and to recover such Parts of his Territories, as are still in the Hands of Rebels. It is our Opinion that we have Troops enough to form an Army for the Enterprize; and as we have no European Enemy to fear, the Forces requisite for this Service can, without Danger, be spared. The Nabob's large Army, which is now a Burthen upon the Provinces, and only kept up to screen him from the King's Power, and through his Jealousy of us, would afford a considerable Addition, and at the same Time ease the Country of an immense Expence; *Shujab Dowlah*, one of the most powerful Men of the Empire, would join with his Forces, besides many other considerable Powers, Friends to the King, from different Parts, would flock to the Royal Standard, should we ever take the Field; and our Army, most probably (as the King himself has frequently declared) would march to the Gates of *Delhy*, without Opposition; we most humbly submit to you, whether so glorious an Opportunity of aggrandizing the Company in *Hindostan*, should not be embraced, and leave it to yourselves to judge the Reputation and Advantages which would result to them, if, through the Means of the *British* Arms, his Majesty

should be established on his Throne: For Want of our Aid he is now actually at a Stand, and unable to prosecute his Journey to his Capital.

39. But should you be unwilling to extend your Connections further up the Country, and, instead of accepting the Dewanny of *Bengal*, chuse to confine your Views to your new Acquisitions, and to the Trade of *Bengal* alone, we beg Leave to offer it as our Opinion, that we ought to maintain an Interest in the Country, independent of the Nabob, by supporting in Power such Men as have proved themselves our Friends; this will serve as a Balance against him, should he entertain ill Designs against us.

40. We have now given you a fair Relation of Things; and, conscious of the Goodness of our Intentions, we cannot but flatter ourselves we shall meet with your Approbation, in the Part we have taken; we shall therefore conclude with the Assurance that our Endeavours shall never be wanting to promote the Honour and Interests of our Employers, their Success being the Object of our most fervent Wishes.

Fort William,  
11th March 1762.

We are, with the greatest Respect,  
Honourable Sirs,  
your most faithful  
and dutiful Servants,

*Eyre Coote,*  
*P. Amoyat,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*W. Ellis,*  
*S. Batson,*  
*H. Verelst.*

## A P P E N D I X, N° 13.

Fort William, the 12th of April 1761.

Extract of a Letter from Major *John Carnac*, dated Camp at *Bockypoor*, 13th of April 1761, to the Select Committee.

"I Have long had Reason to suspect the Nabob had ill  
"Design against *Ramnarrain*, and have now found  
"my Suspicions to be too true. His Excellency made  
"a heavy Complaint to me Yesterday in the Presence of  
"Mr. *McGwire*, Major *Turke*, Mess<sup>rs</sup> *Lusington* and  
"*Swinton*, that there was a considerable Balance due on  
"the Revenues of this Province. *Ramnarrain* has de-  
"clared to me, that he was very ready to lay the Ac-  
"counts before him; however, as the Two Parties  
"differ widely in their Statement, Mr. *McGwire* and I  
"proposed, that they should each make out their Ac-  
"counts, and refer them to your Board, who would  
"fairly decide between them. This, which I thought  
"was a reasonable Proposal, was so far from being sa-  
"tisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared, no-  
"thing less could satisfy him than the *Mahrje's* being  
"removed from the Nalbut of this Province before he  
"returned to *Morshedabad*: You are all, I believe, ac-  
"quainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel *Clive* engaged to  
"*Ramnarrain*, on the Part of the *English*, that he should  
"be continued Subah Naib of this Province, as long  
"as he chose to be so; and the Colonel constantly op-  
"posed every Attempt of *Meer Jaffer* or the Chuta  
"Nabob to remove him; this Engagement should  
"surely hold equally good against *Cassim Ally Cawn*,  
"as being prior to any you have concluded with him.  
"Thus far Justice pleads in Behalf of *Ramnarrain*;  
"and it is certainly good Policy to support the Weight  
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"and Influence of a Person known to be so attached to  
"the *English* Interest, in order to counterbalance the  
"Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes a Point  
"to take all Power from out of the Hands of those,  
"whom he finds to favour, or be favoured by, the  
"*English*; of this I have seen more Instances than One,  
"and he is now giving a fresh Proof of it, in the Case  
"of the Roy *Shitubray*, whom he is about to dispossess  
"of his Jaghuirs, though he deserves particular Con-  
"sideration, both from the Nabob and us, on Account  
"of the Zeal and Assiduity with which he served both  
"in the Transactions with the *Shahzadah*.  
"I am directed, Gentlemen, by your Letter, under  
"Date the 9th of February, to protest *Ramnarrain*  
"against all Violence and Injustice that may be offered  
"against his Person, Honour, or Fortune. If you do  
"not mean to include in these the Continuance of the  
"Subahdarree to him, it will be impossible for me to  
"comply with your Directions; and the Moment that  
"all Power is taken from himself, he will be reduced  
"to the Necessity of seeking an Asylum elsewhere, from  
"the Oppression of the Nabob."

Instructions to Colonel *Coote*, Commander in Chief of  
the Forces in *Bengal*.

"S I R,

"The present Tranquillity of these Provinces, and  
"the valuable Territories the Company are possessed of,  
"render the securing that Tranquillity, and the Confir-  
"mation of those Advantages, the most worthy Objects  
"of our Attention.

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"The Connection betwixt our Nation and the Shahzadah, the eldest Son of the last Mogul, may afford the most effectual Means of answering those Purposes, if Circumstances should turn out so, as to put it in our Power to assist him in prosecuting his Title to the Throne of his Father.—There have been so many Revolutions of late in the Affairs of *Delhy*, that it is hardly possible for us to describe to you how the several Chiefs may stand affected; but as far as we have been able to observe, the Chiefs who have shewn the most constant Attachment to the Cause of the Shahzadah are, *Saja Dowlab*, the Nabob of *Oude*, and *Nazeba Dowlab*, the Chief of the *Rokillas*.—The Territories of the former extending from the *Caramassar*, very far towards *Delhy*, it is his Alliance that would be most particularly useful in promoting the Success of an Expedition to that Capital; nor should we think it rash, if the Shahzadah should desire our Assistance, to declare openly in his Favour, whenever *Saja Dowlab* should have agreed to the Plan, and given Assurances of his Readiness to act in Conjunction with us.

"By the latest Advices from *Delhy*, we are informed *Abdallah* was on his Return to his own Country; and that a very large Force of *Morattoes* was on its March towards *Delhy*, with Intentions, after executing their Purposes there, to attack *Saja Dowlab's* Country. These Advices, if true, should, we imagine, have the Effect of making the Shahzadah the more seriously inclined to ask our Assistance, and *Saja Dowlab* with to strengthen himself by such an Alliance.—It is true you would have a troublesome Enemy to deal with in so large a Body of *Morattoes*; but we should little doubt of your beating them, if they would venture to come to an Action; and at the same Time such Measures might be taken by the other Presidencies, as to oblige them to return to the *Deccan*; such Measures we shall strongly recommend to the Gentlemen at *Madras* and *Bombay*, if this Enterprize should be carried into Execution. Letters are dispatched to *Saja Dowlab*, proposing this Alliance to him; and by the Time his Answers arrive, we may hope also to see your Regiment, without which Reinforcement we are not able to spare Troops enough for so distant an Expedition: Another necessary Consideration, is a sufficient Advance of Money for the Expences of the Army on the March; Ten Lacks at least will be necessary to set out with; and as it is a Principle with us, that the Company shall bear no Part of the Burthen, this Sum must be furnished by the Nabob, out of the Revenues of *Babar* and *Bengal*; but whether he has the Means of doing this, besides discharging his Balance to the Company, paying off the Arrears due to the Troops of the late Nabob, and the current Expences of the Government, seems to us very doubtful.—We recommend to you, Sir, rather to consult with him on the Means of raising such a Sum, than peremptorily to demand it; nor do we in the least doubt but on your representing to him, the Security and Advantage which will accrue to his Government from the intended Expedition, he will exert himself to comply to the utmost of his Power with whatever you shall think necessary. Such Assistance as he may be in Need of, to collect the Balance due to the *Circar*, we desire you will be pleased to yield him.

"We are advised by Major *Cornac*, that there is a Difference between the Nabob and *Ramnarrain*, relative to the Accounts of the *Paina* Province: We hope this may be amicably and reasonably adjusted; and request you will give your Assistance towards it as much as possible: As *Ramnarrain* has been remarkably steady in his Alliance with the Company, and received from Colonel *Clive* particular Assurances of Protection, with respect to his Person, Fortune, and Government, we recommend to you to secure him

"against all Attempts of Oppression or Injustice: And further, that the Government of *Paina* be preserved to him, if it be his Inclination to continue it. It is needless for us to add, that it will be far more agreeable to all Parties if that can be done, by representing to the Nabob the Obligations we are under to *Ramnarrain*, and preventing by that Means the Necessity of any forcible Measures.

"The Shahzadah has often been pressing to have *Siccas* struck, and the *Cootbah* to be read in his Name; but we have hitherto declined, on Accounts of the Uncertainty of the Expedition's taking Place; but whenever it may appear to you, that the giving him these Marks of Royalty will be the Means of strengthening our Alliance, and bringing other Chiefs to join us, we leave it to your Discretion to act accordingly.

"Many other Circumstances may occur, which may require your Determination before you can communicate them to us, which we, with the greatest Pleasure and Confidence, leave to your Discretion, assuring you of our most hearty Wishes for your Success in all your Undertakings; being with perfect Esteem, &c."

Fort William, 28th September 1761.

Monday.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanittart*, Esquire, President;  
*Culling Smith*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire.

The Board being fully satisfied of the Colonel's Conduct, wrote to him the following Letter.

To Colonel *Eyre Coote*.

S I R,

We have the Honour to transmit to you inclosed, a Copy of the Enquiries made from *Shibabroy*, and his Answers, with respect to the Meaning of the obscure Expressions in those Letters of his, which the Nabob intercepted; the Business which he mentions, with so much mysterious Caution, he explains to be the obtaining for the Company, a *Sunnod* for the Dewannee of these Provinces; and this agrees with the Solution given to us by Mr. *Lusington*: There is not the least Appearance of such a Design, as is mentioned by the Nabob's Vakcel in the King's Camp; viz. the procuring the *Sunnods* for the Subadarree of these Provinces in the Name of *Serferaz Cawn's* Son, or any other in the Place of *Cosim Ally Cawn*; and it is with great Pleasure we assure you we are convinced, the Nabob's Suspicions on that Head are entirely groundless.

We must observe to you, that the making any Application for the Dewannee in the Name of the Company, or the encouraging others to do it, or the People about the Court to offer it, was foreign from our Intention, as may be seen by our Instructions to Major *Carnac* of the and to you of the where we sum up all the Requests we had to make to the King; we were aware that such a Circumstance would be to the Nabob a Cause of great Uneasiness, the Subsidiary being a Trust of little Authority or Value, if the Dewannee were in the Hands of another.

The President has acquainted the Nabob with the Result of these Enquiries, and represented to him, that it is highly just and necessary he should make you all possible Amends for the groundless Suspicions entertained of you; at the same Time we think some Apology is due from you to him, for the Alarm you gave him upon a Suspicion equally unreasonable, of his intending to attack the City of *Paina*.

We hope that no more of our Time or yours will be taken up with Discussions of this Nature; but that a steady

steady Pursuit of the most necessary Measures, for securing the Company's Possessions, and preserving the Tranquillity of the Country, will, in future, employ all our Attention. The Instances in which any of us may have erred, will be pointed out, and censured by our Superiors; but let us here endeavour to shew an Example of good Harmony to the Society of which we are the chief Members; and by preserving ourselves a proper Respect for each other, excite the same Sentiments in others.

We are, with Esteem,

S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servants.

Extract of a Letter from the honourable the President, &c. at Fort William, to Colonel Eyre Coote, dated 18th June 1761.

We hope your Advice has had some Effect upon Ramnarrain; it seems however, by his Delays in settling Accounts upon the Footing directed in our joint Letter to yourself and Mr. McGwire, dated the 17th of last Month, that he is endeavouring, by evading the Delivery of his Accounts, to preserve his own Authority over the Subahship, and prevent the Nabob's collecting any Money; it is neither equitable nor expedient to suffer any more of the Revenues to be lost; but while the old Accounts are under Examination, let the Nabob place his own People to collect all the growing Rents, and to call the Zemindars to account for their Balances, and let Ramnarrain's Powers be suspended until his Accounts be settled, and a Computation of the Rents transmitted us, with the Nabob's Proposals for our Determination, as desired in our beforementioned Letter.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Eyre Coote, to the honourable the President, &c. at Fort William, dated French Gardens, July 17th 1761.

By the following Paragraph in your Instructions to me, dated April 21st; viz. "As Ramnarrain has been

"remarkably steady in his Alliance with the Company, "and received from Colonel Clive particular Assurances "of Protection, with respect to his Person, Fortune, "and Government; we recommend to you to secure "him against all Attempts of Oppression or Injustice; "and further, that the Government of Patna be pre- "served to him, if it be his Inclination to continue in it: "It is needless for us to add, that it will be far more "agreeable to all Parties, if that can be done by re- "presenting to the Nabob the Obligations we are under "to Ramnarrain, and preventing by that Means the "Necessity of any forcible Measures;" also by several other Letters since, partly corroborating the before-mentioned Paragraph, you continued desirous of giving Ramnarrain your Protection, but chose finally to have the Differences between him and the Nabob settled by your Decision; and though the Nabob was pleased to offer me Five Lacks and a Half of Rupees to turn out Ramnarrain; and I was also sensible at that Time, from the Enmity the Nabob bore him, that the Raja could not be continued in the Subahship, yet so determined was I not to deviate in the least from your Instructions, that however great this Offer might appear, I refused it, by assuring the Nabob it was not in my Power, but must be done by the Board; and I am convinced, ever since that Refusal, he looked upon it I could not be his Friend.

The following Paragraph of my Letter to you, dated June 13th, will also shew how desirous I was to have those Affairs speedily determined.—"Ramnarrain is settling his Accounts with the Nabob, but "goes on so slowly, that I can hardly say he has "made a Beginning: I most sincerely wish this Affair "was settled one Way or other;" and on Receipt of your Letter of the 18th June (wherein you ordered that unfortunate Raja to be suspended from having any Power in the Country, till his Accounts were settled) I immediately sent to acquaint him, that till he settled his Accounts, you had suspended him from the Government of the Province; and in Consequence the Cutcherry was removed to the Nabob's Encampment.

## A P P E N D I X, N° 14.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the President and Council at Fort William, dated London, 10th April 1771.

PAR. 43. HAVING already apprised you of the Purposes to which we mean to appropriate the Saving abovementioned, we have only to direct, that when the Navy and Army Donations, the Debt due to Belakidsis, and the stipulated Payment to Juggasfees, shall have been wholly satisfied and reimbursed to us out of the aggregate Reductions beforementioned, such further Sums as shall ~~be~~ therefrom, are to be applied from Time to Time, to clear the Balance unpaid to the Claimants of the Restitution Fund, and the Donation of Two Laaks to Colonel Munro, in such Proportions as the respective Claims may bear to each other, until the Whole shall be discharged; but you are to take Notice that the Principal only of the Sums due from the Sircar are to be considered and allowed in the Payments here ordered.

A Letter of Thanks to Major Munro.

Fort William, the 16th November 1764.  
Tuesday.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable Henry Vanstuart, Esquire, President,  
John Spencer,  
Col<sup>l</sup> Stafford Playdell,  
Warren Hastings,  
John Jobnstone,  
Samuel Middleton,  
Ralph Leycester,  
John Burdett, Esquires.

A Letter of Thanks, addressed to the Commander in Chief.

Agreed, That we address, on this Occasion, the following Letter to Major Munro.

S I R,

We have received, with great Pleasure, the first News of your Success of the 23d October, against Sujah

*Shujab Dowlah*, by your Note to the President from the Field of Battle; and Yesterday we were favoured with your Letter of the 26, containing the Detail of the Action, which from the great Force of the Enemy, and the Number of their Artillery, is one of the most interesting that ever was fought in *India*. The signal Victory you gained, so as at one Blow utterly to defeat their Designs against these Provinces, is an Event, which does so much Honour to yourself, Sir, in particular, and to all the Officers and Men under your Command, and which at the same Time, is attended with such important Advantages to the Company, as calls upon us to return you our sincere Thanks. We shall regard it at once as our Pleasure and Duty, to set forth to the Court of Directors, how much they are obliged to you for your Skill and Activity in the Care of the Army, before the Opening of the Campaign; your Judgment in leading them into the Field in the earliest of the Season, and your conducting the Disposition you made for receiving or attacking the Enemy. We request that you will return our Thanks to the other Field Officers, and the Commandant of the Artillery, for their Care and Vigilance in preserving this Disposition, and taking every Advantage over the Enemy; and to the Officers and Men in general, for

their Bravery and good Behaviour on this important Occasion.

Lieutenants *Nicoll*, *Harper*, and *Brewan*, mentioned in your Letter to us, and Captains *Grant*, *Winwood*, *Hay*, *Stables*, and *Kinloch*, Mr. *Hamilton*, your Aid de Camp; Lieutenant *Duff*, of the Artillery; Mr. *Stuart*, your Secretary; and Mr. *Sage*, who acted as Major *Pemble's* Aid de Camp, mentioned in like Manner in your Letter to the President, as meriting your particular Notice, have gained great Honour. They may be assured that your Recommendation shall not be forgot; that they shall receive, upon all Occasions, every Encouragement the Rules of the Service will admit of. We shall also take the first Opportunity of writing to the President and Council of *Bombay*, of the good Services of Major *Pemble*, and Captains *Hamilton* and *Mac Pherfon*, belonging to that Establishment, and shall request of them to take every Opportunity of rewarding their Merit.

For the further Operations of the Army, we refer you to our separate Letter of Instructions of this Date, and are with great Esteem,

Sir,

*Calcutta*, Your most obedient humble Servants,  
6th Nov<sup>r</sup> 1764. *H<sup>d</sup> Vanstuart*, &c.

## A P P E N D I X, N<sup>o</sup> 15.

Paragraph from General Letter to *Bengal*, 27th  
April 1763.

Par. 5. WITH respect to the Jagueer given by the late Nabob *Jaffer Ally Khan* to Lord *Clive*, arising out of the Lands, granted by the said Nabob to the Company, we direct that you do not pay any further Sums to the Attornies of Lord *Clive* on that Account; and we further direct, that whatever shall arise in future from the said Jagueer be carried to our Credit. You are to cause exact Accounts to be made out, and transmitted to us, not only of what shall be come into our Cash, but also of all the Sums Lord *Clive's* Attornies have already received on the said Account, together with the Dates of the several Payments; his Lordship's Pretensions to the said Jagueer will be settled here.

Copy Letter from the Secret Committee, dated 30th  
December 1763, to the President, &c. of the Select  
Committee.

To the President and the rest of the Select Committee  
at *Fort William*.

Soon after the General Letter of the Court of Directors of the 27th April last, containing Orders to the Governor and Council to suspend all future Payments of the Rents claimed by Lord *Clive* as a Jaghire, his Lordship thought fit to commence a Suit in the Court of Chancery against the Company, insisting on a Title to those Rents. A Copy of his Bill and the Company's Answer we send you herewith, by which you will learn how he makes out his Claim, and how we controvert it: It the Plaintiff should be advised to proceed in his Cause, the next Step to be taken in it, we are told, will probably be a Commission to issue out of the said Court here, but to be executed in *Bengal*, in order to ascertain the Facts insisted on, and the Constitution, Usage, and Laws of the Empire, as far as regards this Question; and for that Purpose to examine and take the Depositions in

Writing, of the several Witnesses either Side may think fit to produce to prove or disprove the several Allegations contained in the Bill or in the Answer. Whenever such a Commission issues, proper Instructions will be sent out with it, respecting the Manner of executing it. In the mean Time it is our Desire (and it is for this Purpose we write you now) that you will immediately take the proper Steps to inform yourselves of the real State of the Facts material to the Discussion of the several Questions upon which the Plaintiff's Claim appears, by the Bill and Answer, to depend; particularly that you will immediately make proper Enquiries into the Authenticity of the pretended Patent from the Mogul, creating the Plaintiff an Emir or Omra of the Empire, which he makes the Foundation of his Title, deriving from it a Capacity to accept a Jaghire, and, as he pretends, a Right to expect one. If no such Patent ever issued (as we have great Reason to believe) or if any of the usual Forms necessary to make it valid and effectual were wanting, this will be decisive against him. You see therefore the Importance of this Enquiry, and cannot be too attentive to it. The Manner of obtaining the supposed Grant of the Jaghire from *Jaffer Ally Khan*, the Nabob's Motives, Intentions, &c. must be likewise particularly enquired into; and in Case there should have been (as the Plaintiff's own Letters lead us to suspect) any Imposition in any of the Instruments supposed to have formerly issued, or if any Thing of that Kind should be attempted now, you are to spare no Pains or Expence to detect it; and above all it is our Desire that you will instantly make effectual Applications to the Courts of *Delhi* and *Musnadawad*, to prevent the issuing any new Grants or Confirmations, by which the Plaintiff might supply the Defects of his present Title, or acquire a new one, though he should have none at present; for though we have no Reason to desire to prevent a fair Discussion and Decision of the Plaintiff's present Pretensions, yet we are so fully sensible of the many Inconveniences to the Company, which such a Title, should it be established, would occasion, that

that we think it our Duty to make the strictest Enquiry into the Foundation of the Claim, and if there be no Title at present, to use our best Endeavours to prevent the acquiring one. We think it equally contrary to the Honour, and to the Interest of the Company, that it should thus become tributary; as it were, to its own Servants; and the soliciting, or even accepting, a Grant of the Sovereignty of the Company's Possessions appears to be inconsistent with that Relation, that we trust it will be found as illegal, as we are sure it is improper. If those Rents must be paid, we think it, upon many Accounts, much more for the Interest of the Company to pay them, as usual, to the Nabob, for the Use of the Mogul, than to any pretended Grantee of theirs, whose Receipts we fear would be of little Use to the Company, when those Princes should be disposed to consider the Rents as in Arrear; which we doubt not will be the Case, if ever they find themselves in a Condition to compel the Payment of them. Circumstanced, however, as Things were at *Bengal*, at the Time the late Nabob was induced to make the Grant, which gives Occasion to the present Claim, we think the Company had a Right to expect to be released from this Tribute altogether; and that the present Claimant, then Governor of the Company's Settlements, and Commander of their Troops, ought to have employed the Influence this Station gave him, in procuring this Concession for the Company's Benefit, instead of his own. The present Situation of Things there encourages us still to hope, that both the Mogul and the reigning Nabob may be prevailed upon to relinquish these Rents in Favour of the Company; and, as well for the Sake of the Revenue, as to prevent the Company's being ever again embarrassed with a Claim like the present, we direct you to solicit, and use your best Endeavours, to obtain that Concession, in Case you find, as we trust you will, that those Rents are still in their Disposal.

As it will be necessary, for the Purpose of carrying these Orders into Execution, that some Person, in whom we can confide so great a Trust, should be sent to *Musadavad* and *Delhi*, we think it necessary that one of you should undertake this Negotiation. We recommend Mr. *John Spencer*, if he can be spared, otherwise Mr. *Warren Hastings*; and whoever goes, is to take with him such of the Company's Servants as are best qualified by their Capacity, Integrity, and Knowledge of the Language, to give him the necessary Assistance.

We have only to add, that in Case the Plaintiff should think it necessary, as it is probable he may, to employ an Agent in *Bengal* to assist him in any Thing relative to the Matters in Dispute between him and the Company, it will be obviously improper that any of you, with whom we now correspond, or of the Council, to whom Instructions may perhaps be sent hereafter on this Subject, should accept that Office. This last Circumstance you will privately communicate to the rest of the Council.

We are

Your loving Friends,  
The Secret Committee of the East India Company.  
*Ed Crabb Bolton, J. Dorrion,*  
*John Boyd, Lau. Sullivan.*

London,  
30 Dec. 1763.

*Fort William*, the 23d April 1764.  
Monday.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,

*Ralph Lyesster*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

The Nabob's Letter to the Governor and Council, in Consequence of the Company's Orders regarding Colonel *Clive's* Jagheer.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter, which he has received from the Nabob, addressed to himself and the Council.

Dated 27th March 1764.

"From the Nabob to the Governor and Council:

"I am informed by Major *Carnar*, that the Gentlemen of Council at *Calcutta*, in Conformity to the Directions of the Counsellors in *Europe*, have taken Possession of, and propose paying into the Company's Treasury, the Rents of the Jagheer, which I assigned to my Son Colonel *Clive*, in Consideration of the great Services he performed for me, and which God is my Witness I gave him, without his desiring it, merely as a Reward for his dutiful and affectionate Behaviour to me. This Affair surprised me greatly, because no other Gentlemen have any Right to what I have given to my Son Colonel *Clive*. If therefore it is not agreeable to them to continue the Jagheer to my said Son, the Right and Property thereof reverts to me. I will resume it. Whatever Money now is, or may hereafter be due, on Account of the said Jagheer, you will be pleased to pay it into the Hands of Mr. *Vanfittart*, that so I may receive the full Amount thereof. Let these my Orders be faithfully complied with."

The Reversion of it to him esteemed incontestible.

Since the Company hath been pleased to forbid our continuing to pay this Jagheer to Lord *Clive*, we are unanimously of Opinion, that the Nabob's Right to the Money is incontestable.

Order and Resolution in Consequence.

Ordered therefore, That the Accountant to the Committee of Lands, do prepare, and lay before the Board, an Account of what is due to this Time; the same may be brought to the Nabob's Credit.

And Agreed, That the President do advise the Nabob accordingly.

*Fort William*, the 7th May 1764.

Monday.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T;

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyesster*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

Account of Money due on Lord *Clive's* Jagheer.

The Accountant to the Committee of Lands lays before the Board the Account Money due on Lord *Clive's* Jagheer to the 11th April last, amounting to — — S<sup>r</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 1,25,655 7 3

Entered, and an Order to the Sub Treasurer.

Ordered, It be entered, and that the Sub Treasurer be directed to pass the Amount to the Credit of the Nabob's Account, and the Debit of the Company's Zemindary.

Particulars of the Sums on which *Roydolub* received his Commission in 3 Payments.

To the Company	—	—	4683595	11	7
Army and Navy	—	—	2341797	8	3
Inhabitants	—	—	3606368	—	6

106,31,761 4 4

Deduct Army and Navy, on which no Commission was drawn	—	—	2341797	8	3
--	---	---	---------	---	---

8289963 12 1

5

4,14,498 1 5

Committee 1150000 5 per Cent. — 57,500 — —

A Present from Colonel *Clive*, being 5 per Cent. upon 25 } 1,25,000 — —

Lacks — — —

596998 — —

An Account of Money agreeable to the Receipts of *Raja Dolevaram*, received Account Commission; viz.

5 Sun Siccas	—	7400
<i>Muxadavad</i> Sonauts	—	94991
<i>Dacca</i> Sonauts	—	10513
<i>Patna</i> Sonauts	—	148770
<i>Arcois</i> Good	—	41330
<i>Patna</i> lefts Rupees	—	54993
<i>Arcois</i> lefts	—	85144 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sonauts of Sorts lefts	—	153178

R' 596229  $\frac{1}{2}$

N. B. The above Sums are given to *Rajah Dolevaram* by *Caja Petrusse*, the Bags containing some One thousand, and some Two thousand; the said Bags were sealed with a Mohur of Nabob *Surozai Dowlah*, and regularly the above Sums were received by *Dolevaram*; but those Bags that were left to the Amount of 767 'Z. R'. which was likewise received by him.

Lord *Clive* observed, concerning the Account laid before the Governor and Council by *Roy Dullub*, in which is an Article of 5 per Cent. received by him (*Roy Dullub*) on a Present of 25 Lacks of Rupees given by the Nabob to his Lordship, that to the best of his Recollection *Roy Dullub*, who was the Nabob's Prime Minister and Treasurer, received a Commission of 5 per Cent. upon all the Treaty Money (except that to the Navy and Army) upon all the Committee Money, and also upon all the separate Donations to those Individuals, as well *Blacks as Europeans*, who had been particularly useful in the Revolution; some of whose Names were mentioned in his Lordship's Evidence on the 28th of April; that those separate Donations must be included in the 25 Lacks specified in *Roy Dullub*'s Account.—Lord *Clive* having been the principal Person, he imagined, was the Reason why the Whole of that Money was put under his Name, although his Proportion was only what has been already declared by his Lordship. And it is certain, that the Deduction of 5 per Cent. Commission for *Roy Dullub* was made from every Body's Proportion as well as from Lord *Clive*'s.



S E C O N D

R E P O R T

F R O M T H E

C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O

T H E N A T U R E, S T A T E, A N D C O N D I T I O N,

O F T H E

*E A S T I N D I A* C O M P A N Y,

A N D O F T H E

*B R I T I S H* A F F A I R S I N T H E *E A S T I N D I E S*.

Reported on the Twenty-sixth of *May* 1772.



S E C O N D

# R E P O R T

F R O M    T H E

## C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D   T O   E N Q U I R E   I N T O

### T H E   N A T U R E ,   S T A T E ,   A N D   C O N D I T I O N ,

O F   T H E

### E A S T   I N D I A   C O M P A N Y ,

A N D   O F   T H E

### B R I T I S H   A F F A I R S   I N   T H E   E A S T   I N D I E S .

*The 26th of May 1772.*

The Committee, who were appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition, of the *East India Company*, and of the *British Affairs* in the *East Indies*; and to whom the Petition of *Gregore Cojamaul*, late of *Bengal* in the *East Indies*, on Behalf of himself and others, was referred; have, pursuant to the Order of the House, examined the Matter of the said Petition; and considering the Lateness of the present Session, and the Importance of the Subject, beg Leave to lay before the House, the Whole of the Evidence upon their Proceedings thereon.

*Veneris, 8<sup>o</sup> die Maii 1772.*

Colonel *Burgoyne* in the Chair;

P R E S E N T,

Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> ,	Sir <i>John Turner</i> ,
Mr. <i>Sutton</i> ,	Mr. <i>Ongley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Vane</i> ,	Mr. <i>Hoibam</i> ,
Mr. <i>Siracbey</i> ,	Mr. <i>Pitt</i> ,
Mr. <i>Curzon</i> ,	Mr. <i>Cornwall</i> ,
Mr. <i>Fuller</i> ,	Mr. <i>Ellis</i> .

**R**EAD, the Petition of *Gregore Cojamaul*, as follows:

“ To the honourable the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled.

“ The humble Petition of *Gregore Cojamaul*, late of *Bengal* in the *East Indies*, on Behalf of himself and others:

Sheweth,

“ That your Petitioner, who is an *Armenian Christian*.

“ *stian*, and Native of *Ispahan* in *Persia*, has for many Years resided in *India* as a Merchant, particularly in the Provinces of *Bengal* and its Dependencies, where those of his Nation have ever been allowed to carry on Trade, according to the ancient Usages of these Countries, and even were indulged with certain Privileges in that Respect.

“ That your Petitioner, who has ever strictly conforming himself to the Usages of those respective Countries, has, with many others of his Nation, of late, been greatly impeded in their Business as Merchants, by the most cruel, destructive, and injurious Regulations, and grievously oppressed by long and cruel Imprisonments, and otherwise, by the nominal Nabobs, and other Servants of the *English East India Company* in *Bengal*, notwithstanding your Petitioner never in any Degree injured the said Company, nor was ever guilty of any Breach of the Laws, either of *India* or this Nation; to the known Justice of which last, he has already applied for Satisfaction for the great Losses and Injuries he has sustained.

“ That, when your Petitioner, and others, have been injured and oppressed by such Imprisonments, within the Districts to which his Majesty's most gracious Charter of Justice, granted to the said Company, is not allowed to extend, they have applied to the said nominal Nabobs of *Bengal* for Justice, who have referred them and your Petitioner to the President or Secret Committees of *Calcutta* in *Bengal*, alleging such Imprisonments to have been effected by their Orders; and when, on the Part of your Petitioner and such other Persons, Application has been made for Justice at *Calcutta* to the said Company's Governor and President of the Secret Committees, they have been referred back to the said Nabobs;

3 Y

“ and

"and in this grievous Situation, without ever being able to know of what Crime he was accused, your Petitioner, by such Evasions, has been ruined, and left without any other Remedy than the precarious Redress which he may possibly obtain from the Courts of Law in this Country, under all the Disadvantages of seeking Justice in a foreign Land, at such a Distance from the Scene of Action, without Friends or Money.

"That your Petitioner, upon his Arrival in *England*, was advised to apply to the Directors of the *East India Company* for Redress, in Consequence of the Injuries he had sustained by their Servants Abroad; which your Petitioner accordingly did in the most humble Manner, but has never yet been able to obtain any satisfactory Answer from that honourable Board.

"That your Petitioner is about to return to his Family and Business in *Bengal*, where, under the present double Government, he is apprehensive his Person, Property, and Family, as well as the rest of his Nation, will be exposed to greater Hardships than before, on Account of his having applied for Justice in *England*, unless protected by some effectual Regulations of Government by the *British Legislature*.

"Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays this honourable House to take this Case into Consideration, and grant such Relief in the Premises, with respect to the future Security of Persons and Property in *Bengal*, as to the Wisdom of this honourable House shall seem meet.

(Signed)

"Gregore Cojamaul."

The Committee then read Parts of a Letter written by Lord Clive, upon his leaving *Bengal*, to Mr. Verelst and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated the 16th January 1767; as follows:

"The First Point in Politics which I offer to your Consideration, is the Form of Government. We are sensible that since the Acquisition of the *Dewanny*, the Power formerly belonging to the Soubah of these Provinces, is totally, in Fact, vested in the *East India Company*. Nothing remains to him but the Name and Shadow of Authority. This Name however, this Shadow, is indispensably necessary we should seem to venerate; every Mark of Distinction and Respect must be shewn him, and he himself encouraged to shew his Repentment upon the least Want of Respect from other Nations.

"Under the Sanction of a Soubah, every Encroachment that may be attempted by Foreign Powers can effectually be crushed, without any apparent Interposition of our own Authority; and all real Grievances complained of by them, can, through the same Channel, be examined into and redressed. Be it therefore always remembered, that there is a Soubah, that we have allotted him a Stipend, which must be regularly paid, in Support of his Dignity; and that though the Revenues belong to the Company, the territorial Jurisdiction must still rest in the Chiefs of the Country acting under him, and this Presidency, in Conjunction. To appoint the Company's Servants to the Offices of Collectors, or indeed to do any Act by an Exertion of the *English Power*, which can equally be done by the Nabob at our Instance, would be throwing off the Mask, would be declaring the Company Soubah of the Provinces. Foreign Nations would immediately take Umbrage, and Complaints preferred to the *British Court*, might be attended with very embarrassing Consequences. Nor can it be supposed that either the *French, Dutch, or Danes*, would readily acknowledge the Company's

Soubahship, and pay into the Hands of their Servants the Duties upon Trade, or the Quit Rents of those Districts which they may have long been possessed of by Virtue of the Royal Phirmaunds, or Grants from former Nabobs.

"To what I have urged in general upon the Subject of Regulations, I beg Leave to add a few Words in Relation to one particular Point: All the Company's Servants at the Arungs, all those at the Out Factories, except such as are fixed at the Subordinates, and are necessarily employed in the Silk Business, all free Merchants, must be recalled, and their Place of Residence confined to *Calcutta*. Orders for this Purpose have already been issued, and the Time for their being obeyed is limited. Herein no Consideration whatsoever, scarcely Humanity itself, except in any very extraordinary Instance, should tempt you to relax; for be assured, that until these Regulations take Place, the Company cannot be properly said to enjoy their just Rights and Privileges, nor the Natives to be Masters of their own Property.

"Another growing Evil, which requires a speedy Remedy, is the Number of Vagabonds that infect the Presidency. All those must be apprehended and embarked on board Ships for *Europe* without Delay. In their native Country they may become useful to the Public, but in *Calcutta* they are worse than Idlers. Our Police is not perfect enough to prevent their being guilty of many Outrages, of which I need only mention the oppressing the poor Inhabitants, and the retailing of Spirituous Liquors, which destroy the Constitution and Lives of many of our Soldiers."

The Committee then read Part of a Minute of Mr. Verelst, who succeeded Lord Clive in the Government of *Bengal*, as recorded in the Proceedings of a Select Committee held on the 5th February 1767, at which were also present Colonel Richard Smith, Francis Sykes, Claud Russell, and Alexander Campbell, Esquires; viz.

"Lord Clive, in his Letter to this Committee, has been so very explicit on the present State of Affairs, and has fixed on so judicious and so wise a Plan of Politics, that I consider it as my Duty to recommend in the most earnest Manner, our strictly adhering thereto, from a Conviction that it is a Plan the best calculated to insure Stability to the Affairs of the Company, to preserve Harmony and Concord amongst ourselves, and to establish that Order, Regularity, and Subordination, without which the greatest and most opulent Kingdoms cannot long subsist—Though his Lordship is no longer present to assist us in those salutary Measures for the Welfare of the Company, which he had so much at Heart, and in the Prosecution of which he risked his Health, his Life, and every Thing dear, yet the Legacy he has left us will serve as a Guide for our future Conduct, in the weighty and important Concerns of this Government."

The Petitioner, Gregore Cojamaul, was then called upon to give an Account of the Circumstances of his being taken up and confined, to the Time of his Release and Embarkation for *England*; which he did in the following Words:

On the 14th March 1768, Rajah Bulwant Singh's Officer seized me at *Bara Fort*, and told me it was in Consequence of an Order that the Rajah had received from the *Calcutta Governor*, Mr. Verelst. Then I was taken to different Forts under Forty Men, who guarded me. On the 17th they put me in a Boat, where was another Prisoner, an *Armenian Gentleman*, called Melcomb Phillip. We were carried to *Chowrab*, where I received from the Rajah and his Ministers, Letters of Condolance on my Imprisonment, and Approbation of my Conduct. After some Days we were carried

ried to *Patna*, where we arrived the 30th *March*, and we were carried before the Company's Collector, named *Shtadrey*, who confined us in his *Cutcherry* till the 6th *April*. He then sent away *Rajah Bulwanfing's* Guards, and put *English Sepoys* over us. As soon as the Guard was changed, they carried us into a Boat in such a hasty Manner, that we could not know what we were accused of: One Day we heard there was an Order of Mr. *Verelst*, the Governor of *Calcutta*, that we should be carried to *Murshedabad*, before *Mahomed Reza Khawn*. We arrived at *Murshedabad* on the 26th *April* 1768, and we were carried before *Mahomed Reza Khawn*, who was the Superior of the *English* Collectors. He ordered us to be carried to a Place called *Ferrabhog*. On the 27th *April*, the First *Sepoys* Guard was sent away and other *English Sepoys* were put in their Place, under the Command of Major *Christian Fischer*.—While we were Prisoners, our Relations and Friends applied to the Nabob to release us, who told them he had wrote to *Calcutta* for Orders. At *Calcutta* our Relations presented a Petition to the Governor and Council, which was presented to Mr. *Verelst* himself, who told them to go and apply to the Nabob at the City of *Murshedabad*. On the 29th *May* we were released. We went to *Calcutta*, where we arrived the 8th *June*. On the 10th we waited on Mr. *Verelst*, to know his Pleasure, he insisted we had not been Prisoners. I told Mr. *Verelst* that I had transacted Business for some *English* Gentlemen, under a *Purwannah*, sealed with the Company's Seal; he said, If this is the Case, then you are blameless; bring the *Purwannah* and shew it me—I did not bring my *Purwannah* to shew him, being advised not to do it, because the other Gentleman, *Melcomb Phillip*, told me that he had carried his, and that Mr. *Verelst* had detained it. Afterwards I was distressed, from an Order that no *Armenian* or *Portuguese* should go out of the *English* Dominions, so I remained without having my Goods, or being able to collect my Money, which determined me to come to this Country to seek for Justice.

Q. To what Value do you suppose the Goods and Debts you left behind you amounted to?

A. In all £. 5,000.

Q. Was that belonging to yourself?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you leave no Goods or Debts with which you was intrusted by other People?

A. I did.

Q. Whose Goods?

A. Mr. *Bolts's* and Mr. *Hare's*. I guess, about 10 or £. 12,000 worth.

Q. In what Part of the Country were those Goods and Debts?

A. In *Bulwanfing's* Dominions.

Q. Since that Time have you received no Account of your own Debts, or those belonging to Mr. *Bolts* or Mr. *Hare*?

A. I have had no Account—I have been in *England* since *August* 1769.

Q. Did you never hear that the Company's Servants were forbid to trade in *Bulwanfing's* Country?

A. No—I think the Company's Servants were allowed to trade in that Country, because I have often seen Goods there belonging to the *English*, and have seen *English* Gomastahs in that Country.

Q. Do you think your Goods and Debts, together with those of Mr. *Bolts* and Mr. *Hare*, are lost, so that you shall never receive them?

A. I don't expect a Farthing.

Q. Of the £. 5,000 you left, what Part was in Goods, and what in Debts?

A. Rather more in Debts than Goods.

Q. When you left that Country, did you look upon your Debts as good?

A. At that Time every one was good.

Q. What Part of Mr. *Bolts's* and Mr. *Hare's* Pro-

perty left behind, was in Goods, and what in Debts?

A. As I guess, rather more in Goods than in Debts.

Q. Did you apprehend that their Debts were good when you left that Country?

A. They were good.

Q. Do you know of any Goods of *English* Manufacture being fold in *Bulwanfing's* Country?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of any *English* Broad Cloth and Copper, or other *English* Commodities, being fold in *Bulwanfing's* or *Shujah al Dowla's* Country?

A. I never saw it, but have heard of it.

Q. At what Time was it that you have heard of *English* Goods being fold in *Bulwanfing's* Country?

A. Between 1767 and 1768.

Mr. *Cojamaul's* original *Purwannah* was then produced, and declared by Mr. *Rumbold* to be the *Purwannah* issued by him when he was Chief of *Patna*—It was interpreted by *Gonybamdasi* as follows:

S E A L.

The Magnificent Merchants of the *English* Company, the Dewans of the Magnificent Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, Servants of the bold King *Shah Allum*.

The Governors, Zeminders, Chowdries, and Canon-goes, of the Districts belonging to the Province of *Gbazipore*, which belongs to the great Province of *Owd*, may observe—Since *Gregore*, Gomastah, being appointed by Mr. *Francis Hare*, Gentleman, to buy and sell Goods, he going into that Country, that he may carry on Trade for the above-said Gentleman, for the Space of Six Months, it is necessary that Nobody shall interrupt him, that he may carry on Trade by Uprightness with an easy Mind; it is necessary, that they, having observed the Power of this Order, may put it in Execution—Dated the 30th *October* 1767, in the 9th Year of the King.

Mr. *Cojamaul* was then asked, Had you ever any Warning or Notice, either from the Servants of the *English* Company or *Bulwanfing*, or any of his Officers, that you was conducting yourself improperly, before you was seized and imprisoned?

A. I never had any Notice.

Q. Did you think that *Purwannah* gave you Authority to trade for Mr. *Bolts*?

A. No.

Q. Had you any *Purwannah* to trade for Mr. *Bolts*?

A. No.

Q. Had you a Right to trade for the *English* without a *Purwannah*?

A. I had, being a Merchant settled in that Country.

Q. If you had a Right to trade without a *Purwannah*, what Use was there in having one?

A. I was advised if I did any Business for *English* Gentlemen to get one—I had Liberty and Permission from the *Rajah Bulwanfing* to do Business in that Country, and never was molested; the *Rajah* and the People were satisfied.

Q. Was *Gbazipore* Part of *Bulwanfing's* Country?

A. It was.

Q. When you came to this Kingdom, did you apply to the *East India* Company?

A. I arrived in *London* the 18 *August* 1769—I presented a Petition to the Court of Directors on the 12 *September*, and I never had any Answer—In *October* the Secretary sent me a Letter that he would be glad to speak with me any Morning. I employed Mr. *Bolts* because I could not talk *English* myself.

Q. Did Mr. *Vereft* ever desire you to give him a Lift of your Goods, and fay he would affift you in recovering them?

A. No.

Q. When you carried on Trade in *Bulwansing's* Country, did you ever make Ufe of the *English* Name?

A. I did not, I had no Occafion, becaufe I was a Merchant—I traded for *English* Gentlemen, but did not call myfelf an *English* Gomafthah, nor faid I traded by *English* Authority.

*Thomas Rumbold*, Efquire, being then called, faid, with Regard to *Purwannahs*, they are of very different Kinds. When they are iffued in the Manner of that produced, for the Purchase of Goods, the Servants of the Company have only been intitled to them.—They exempt the Poffeffor from all Duties or Impofitions of the Officers of the Country Government, and no Man refiding in *Bulwansing's* Country, without them, or within the Provinces, could have carried on their Buifnefs, without being liable to frequent Interruption, and Demands of Duties from the Farmers of the Diftricts. I believe there has been no *Armenians* refiding in *Shujab Dowla's* Country, 'till the Influence obtained by the *English*, and they were after that, in common with other Gomafthahs, employed by the Servants of the Company. It was fome Time doubtful whether we had a Right to grant thofe *Purwannahs* for the Purchase of Goods within his Dominions: It had however been for fome Time done, and no Notice taken of it, probably from *Shujab Dowla's* being afraid of offending the *English* after being put in Poffeffion of his Country. In Courfe of Time, Complaints came that the Gomafthahs of the *English* were guilty of many Oppreffions in that Country. Many Letters were wrote by *Shujab Dowla*; fome I received myfelf, and General *Smith*, who was at the Court of *Shujab Dowla*, often made Reprefentations to me how difagreeable it was to the Nabob to have thofe Gomafthahs refiding with fuch a Protection within his Country; this occafioned Orders from the Prefident and Council of *Fort William*, that no *Purwannahs* fhould in future be granted; that all the Gomafthahs fhould be recalled, and, that when Goods paffed the Boundaries of the *Babar* Province, whether belonging to the Natives of *Bengal, Bahar, and Oriffa*, or not, fhould be fubject to the Duties collected by *Shujab Dowla's* Officers from other Merchants.—In fhort, that the *English* Privilege fhould be withdrawn. I believe, that thofe Orders from the Prefident and Council were in Confequence of fome Directions from Home.—All Men who had thofe *Purwannahs* were intitled to particular Privileges, and Exemption from all Duties of the Country Government. When the Orders came for recalling the Gomafthahs, feveral Gentlemen at *Patna* reprefented, that they fhould fuffer greatly by the immediate Recall of their Gomafthahs; before they could have Time to adjust their Concerns, and feveral who made this Reprefentation were indulged with a longer Time; but there appearing no End to that Indulgence, another Order was fent for their immediate Return, and to deliver up their *Purwannahs*. This Order was fignified to the feveral Gentlemen I had granted *Purwannahs* to; many of the *Purwannahs* were re-delivered to me. I cannot fpeak particularly to the *Purwannah* of thofe *Armenians*, why it was not given up, or whether the Time was elapfed.—Several Gomafthahs ftill remained in *Shujab Dowla's* Country, and took the Names of *English* Gentlemen: Three in particular took my Name, and were feized either by *Shujab Dowla* or the Troops acting under Captain *Harper*: Mr. *Vereft*, Prefident at *Calcutta*, wrote to me, that he was furprized there fhould be Men acting for me in that Country, when the Orders from the Prefidency had fo frequently been repeated againft it. I wrote him for Answer, I was very glad they had been taken up, and hoped they would meet with a due Punifhment for acting in my

Name without any Authority from me. The only Gomafthahs that I kept in the Country at that Time, were for the Service of the Company, and by Permiſſion of *Shujab Dowla*, to provide Timber at a Place called *Garruckpore*, for building Barracks for the Troops. I never had any Complaint from Mr. *Hare*, who was the Second at *Patna*, of thofe People who by that *Purwannah* had acted as his Gomafthahs, being feized.—I cannot recollect the Time, but Mr. *Bolts* wrote to me, mentioning thefe *Armenians* being in *Shujab Dowla's* Country, and recommending to me to employ them as my Gomafthahs; he particularly mentioned to me the Advantages that would ariſe by carrying on a particular Trade by them. I declined employing them.

Q. At what Time did you receive thofe Complaints from *Shujab al Dowla*?

A. I cannot charge my Memory with the particular Time.

Q. Did not Mr. *Jobnſtone* preſent the *Purwannah*, now produced, to you ſeveral Days ago, to look at the Date, that you might be Maſter of the Subject.

A. Certainly.

Q. Did you underſtand this *Purwannah* was both to buy and ſell?

A. Undoubtedly.

Q. By what Stipulation of Treaty, or other Regulation, did the Exemption of Duties ariſe, in Conſequence of the *English* *Purwannah* in *Bulwansing's* and *Shujab Dowla's* Country?

Refers back to the former Part of his Evidence.

Q. Do you remember the Date when Orders were ſent to you not to grant any more *Purwannahs*?

A. I have many Copies of Tranſactions Abroad, which I keep for my own Satisfaction.—If on looking over my Papers, I ſhall find the Copy of the Order, I ſhall certainly bring it to the Committee.

Q. In what Light do you conſider *Sitabroy*?

A. I conſider *Sitabroy*, as a Man appointed by the Nabob and Miniſters, to collect the Revenues, with the Approbation of the Company's Agents, as having the *Dewanny* in their Poſſeſſion.

Q. Who do you conceive the Nabob and Miniſters to be appointed by?

A. I believe the Company's Records will ſhow.

Q. Have you any Belief or Knowledge concerning that yourſelf?

A. I never had the Honour of being concerned in the Appointment of any Nabob or Miniſter.

Q. When you was Chief at *Patna*, was *Sitabroy* under your Direction?

A. No.

Q. Was he perfectly independant of your Authority?

A. Intirely independant of my Authority.

Q. Do you conſider him as a Servant of the *East India* Company or not?

A. No more than I conſider *Mabomed Reza Cawn*.

Q. Do you conſider *Mabomed Reza Cawn* as a Servant?

A. I conſider him as the Miniſter of the Nabob.

Q. Does *Mabomed Reza Cawn* receive his Directions upon the Affairs of Government from the Nabob?

A. I never was preſent at any Directions that were ſent to him.

Q. Did you ever ſend or give any Order to *Sitabroy*?

A. I never gave an Order to him in my Life, but I have made many Requeſts to him as Chief of the Faculty.

Q. Was he always fo civil as to grant your Requeſts?

A. He was one of the beſt bred Men I ever met with, and I never gave him an Order.

Q. What would have been the Conſequence to *Sitabroy*, if he had reſuſed the Requeſt?

A. If it had been on Behalf of the *East India* Company, I ſhould have reprefented it to the Governor and Council.

Council of Calcutta.—If of a private Nature, I must have satisfied myself.

Q. Do you suppose, in consequence of such Representation, *Shitabroy* would have been removed from his Office?

A. I suppose, if it had been any Thing that materially affected the Interests of the Company, the Nabob would have shewed a proper Respectment to the Officer who had Charge of his Business in that Province.

Q. Do you believe, *Shitabroy* would have dared to refuse any Request coming from you officially as a public Officer of the Company and upon a public Account?

A. Except the Request had been very improper, I don't believe he would.

Q. Who pays *Shitabroy* his Salary?

A. He is paid out of the Revenues, the same as other Officers employed in the Collection of them.

Q. Who is it that pays him, the Nabob or the Company?

A. Certainly the Nabob; he receives it out of the Revenues, and makes up his Accounts every Year to the Nabob, at *Murshidabad*.

Q. Was it paid out of the Grofs Revenue, or out of the particular Revenue assigned to the Nabob by Treaty?

A. Out of the Grofs Revenue.

Q. About what Time were these Purwannahs first issued?

A. There were Purwannahs issued before I was Chief of the Factory, which was in December 1766.

Q. Were any Purwannahs ordered by Lord Clive?

A. I don't recollect.

Q. Were Purwannahs, of the same Effect as those produced, issued in *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*?

A. There were, to the Company's Servants, mentioning the Name of the Gomastahs employed by them.

Q. Could a Gomastah, acting under such a Purwannah, send Goods free of Duties without a Duffuck?

A. Certainly not.—The Duffuck passes the Goods by the different Custom Houses, which are called Chokies; but there is a Duty upon almost every Species of Goods that is paid to the Farmer where those Goods are manufactured, which the Duffuck has nothing to do with, and which all the Country Merchants are subject to, but which the Purwannah given to our Merchants exempts them from, as I have always understood. I am not sure, whether the Duty is paid by the Purchaser or Manufacturer, but whichever it is, the Purwannah exempts him—I have traded in *Shujab Dowla's* Country, in Ophiom and some little Saltpetre.

Q. Do they pay Duties in *Shujab Dowla's* Country?

A. I always traded as a Servant of the Company, and consequently my Agents were furnished with Purwannahs and Duffucks; and therefore I cannot speak positively to the Duties.—When those Orders came to me, every Gomastah of mine was recalled.

Q. Had you ever any Complaints against *Cogee Grogore, Cogee Melcomb, Cogee Johannes, Padre Rajah, or Ramjunker*?

A. Never particularly; the Complaints that I heard were in general against the *English* Gomastahs.

Q. Did you ever hear or know the Causes for confining those Gomastahs?

A. I never heard any Thing in particular about them.

Q. Had you ever any Complaint from any of the Princes of the Country, while you was Chief at *Patna*, against Mr. *Belli*?

A. No; not to my Recollection.

The Committee then proceeded to read Part of the Proceedings held at a Consultation of the 18 May 1768, in Calcutta; at which were present *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, President, Colonel *Richard Smith*, *Richard Becker*, *James* Vol. III.

*Alexander, Claud Russell, William Aldersey*, and *Charles Floyer*, Esquires, as follows:—

“The Select Committee lay before us the following Extract from their Proceedings of the 27th ultimo.

“Extract from the Proceedings of the Select Committee, the 27 April 1768.

“This Board being sensible of the great Disadvantages resulting from an immediate Recall of Gomastahs of Individuals at present trading in the Countries of the Nabob *Shujab al Dowla* and *Bukwanting*, under the Sanction of the *English*, it is resolved to allow them to reside there for the Space of Two Months, for the Adjustment of the Affairs of their Constituents, and the Collection of their outstanding Balances, and shall on no Account whatever be allowed to engage in any new Concern, and that they shall quit those Countries immediately after the Expiration of the Term limited for their Residence.

“And in order to facilitate the Adjustments of their Affairs, as well as to prevent the Frauds and other Abuses, to which such a Restriction might otherwise expose them; it is further resolved and agreed, that the President do inform the Nabob *Shujab al Dowla* and *Bukwanting*, of these Injunctions laid upon all Gomastahs in their Countries, and to request they will grant them every reasonable Assistance they may require, for the speedy Regulation of their Concerns. “Agreed, That the foregoing Resolutions be laid before the President and Council, and that we do recommend to them to issue their Orders for effectually preventing in future, any Trade being carried on beyond the Provinces by Gomastahs assuming the *English* Name.

A true Extract.  
(Signed)

“*Charles Floyer*,  
Secretary of the Select Committee.

“The same having been read, and we concurring in Opinion therewith, it is agreed and resolved, That after the Expiration of Two Months, from the 27th April, no Gomastahs employed by the *English* shall be permitted to remain in any Part of India, out of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*; and after that Period, that no Company's Servant, free Merchant, or other *European* residing under the Company's Protection, shall be suffered to carry on any Inland Trade, directly or indirectly, beyond those Limits, under Penalty, if a Company's Servant, of being immediately dismissed the Service; if a free Merchant, or other *European*, of forfeiting the Company's Protection. And it is further agreed and resolved, That if any *European* whatever shall attempt to transport any Merchandize beyond the Provinces, all such Merchandize shall be seized and confiscated, and the Gomastahs having Charge of such contraband Trade shall be punished with the utmost Severity. “All *Armenians, Portuguese*, or the Descendants of *Armenians and Portuguese*, are included in the above Restrictions, it being intended that none but the Natives of the Country (*Musselmans and Hindoos*) shall in future enjoy this Privilege. “Ordered, That public Notice be given of this Resolution; and Agreed, That we acquaint the Gentlemen at the Subordinates of the same, and send them a Copy of the Publication made here, that it may be issued at their respective Residences also.”

Mr. *Rumbold* was then asked, Do you remember any public Orders for prohibiting *Armenians*, their Descendants, and others, from trading in *Shujab Dowla* or *Bukwanting's* Dominions, before the Edict of the 18 May 1768, which has now been read?

A. I do not recollect any; but should there have been any Order at that Time, which may have slipped my Memory, I hope the Committee will not suppose that I had any Intention of secreting it.

Q. Was it not your Practice at *Patna* to enter in a Book all your Letters of Correspondence with the Country Powers?

A. I believe they mostly were, but I have no Copies.

Q. Are those Books transmitted from the Subordinate Factories to the Presidency?

A. I do not believe the Books of Country Correspondence have been so transmitted.

Q. Were those general Orders for withdrawing the *Gomastahs* and *Purwannahs*, issued by you, entered?

A. I believe they are.

Mr. *Cajamaul* was then asked, When you purchased Goods for Mr. *Hare*, did you pay the Duty to the *Zemindar*?

A. I know of but One Duty, and that goes to the *Fouzdar* or his Officers: I never purchased any Thing without paying a Duty.

Q. Why did you not produce the *Purwannah* to excuse Mr. *Hare* from paying the Duty?

A. Because I did not chuse to act as a *Gomastah*, but as a Merchant; I told Mr. *Hare*, I would not do it.

Q. Why did you take the *Purwannah*?

A. I was advised by my Friends, but I never used it.

Q. Do you know nothing of any Duties whatsoever, from which the producing that *Purwannah* would exempt you?

A. The Force of this *Purwannah*, as I have heard, is to hinder the Duty in the *English* or any other Dominions; but I never made use of it; the Duty is trifling.

Q. Did you charge Mr. *Hare* with the Duties?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you, when you had a *Purwannah* that would have exempted them?

A. Because I told Mr. *Hare* at first, that I would not be employed as a *Gomastah* for the *English*, but as a Merchant.

Q. What is the Force of the *Dustuck*?

A. To pass the Goods by the *Chokies*.

Q. Is there not a Duty paid in the Place where the Goods are manufactured?

A. Yes—where they are bought or manufactured.

Q. Have you your Account with Mr. *Hare*?

A. No, it remains in *India*.

Q. Is it any Disgrace to be an *English* *Gomastah*?

A. A Merchant is always respected more, and has more Credit than a *Gomastah*.

Q. Is a Merchant more respected than an *English* *Gomastah*?

A. It is a Character of more Respect?

Q. Did you ever apply to Mr. *Vereff* for Redress?

A. I never applied myself, but my Friends did.

Q. What was their Application?

A. It was for Redress. I have heard of no Answer from my Friends, that they could get.

Q. Who were those Friends?

A. *Melcomb Phillip*; he said he could get no Answer.

Q. Did you ever send any Goods to Mr. *Hare*?

A. I have sent Things of little Consequence.

*Lune 11<sup>e</sup> die Maii, 1772.*

Colonel *Burgoyne* in the Chair;

# PRESENT,

Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> ,	Mr. <i>Fleetwick</i> ,
Mr. <i>Vane</i> ,	Mr. <i>Ongley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Pulteney</i> ,	Lord <i>Clive</i> ,
Mr. <i>Strachey</i> ,	Mr. <i>Pitt</i> ,
Sir <i>G. Elliot</i> ,	Lord <i>Folkestone</i> .

The Committee proceeded to read the following Extract from a Letter of the Governor and Select Committee in *Bengal*, to the Directors of the *East India* Company, dated the 31<sup>st</sup> *January* 1766, signed, *Clive*, *Wm. B. Sumner*, *John Carnae*, *H. Vereff*, and *Francis Sykes*, viz.

“To us it evidently appears there remained but the “Alternative, to advance as we have done, and grasp at the whole Power, or to shrink back into our primitive Condition of simple Merchants; to abandon our “Possessions, disband our Forces, and rest our future “Hopes on the Clemency of Princes, who will not easily “forget or forgive the Superiority we have so long “maintained.—In a Word, this last Measure was in itself impracticable; for we must observe, although “with much Regret, that the Misconduct of Individuals hath rendered the *English* Name so odious, that we are no longer secure, than while our Hands are armed “for the Defence of our Lives and Property.”

Read, Part of the Proceedings of the Select Committee in *Bengal*, held at *Barajul*, the 31<sup>st</sup> *December* 1766, at which were present Lord *Clive*, *Harry Vereff*, Esquire, Brigadier General *Carnae*, and *Francis Sykes*, Esquire, as follows:

“*Mahomed Reza Khawm* representing to us the great “Expence which he necessarily incurs in supporting the “Dignity and Influence of his Station, an Expence “which he has hitherto defrayed by receiving those Perquisites and Emoluments usually annexed to his Office, and desiring that we will now assign to him a “stated Salary and Provision, which he thinks will “prove more honourable to himself and advantageous “to the Revenue:

“And the Committee taking into serious Consideration the great Importance of *Mahomed Reza Khawm*’s “particular Station, which is that of Naib Dewan and “Prime Minister, the extraordinary Zeal and Ability “he has shewn in the Discharge of his Office, the Expediency of maintaining him in the full Influence due “to his Rank, and the Benefit to the Revenue that “will accrue from cutting off all secret Advantages and “Perquisites, which so evidently open a Door to manifold Acts of Fraud and Oppression:

“Resolved, That in Lieu of all Perquisites and Emoluments hitherto received by *Mahomed Reza Khawm*, “and the other Ministers, agreeably to the Custom of the Country, there shall in future be assigned for their “Maintenance and Support, an annual Salary of Twelve “Lacks of Rupees, the same to be deducted from the “Monthly Collections, and divided between *Mahomed Reza Khawm*, *Roy Dullub*, and *Shitabroy*, in such “Manner and in such Proportions, as shall be settled by “the Right honourable the President and them, Payment to commence on the last Day of *January* next.”

Read, Part of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council at *Fort William*, in *Bengal*, dated the 10<sup>th</sup> *December* 1767; at which were present *Harry Vereff*, Esquire, President, *John Cartier*, *Richard Becker*, *Clauud Russell*, *William Aldersey*, *Charles Floyer*, and *Alexander Campbell*, Esquires: Also Part of the Proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 11<sup>th</sup> *December* 1767, at which were present Mr. *Vereff*, Mr. *Cartier*, Mr. *Becher*, and Mr. *Campbell*; viz.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel *Richard Smith* to the Select Committee, dated at *Ilabahad*, the 24<sup>th</sup> *November* 1767.

“The Nature of the Intelligence transmitted from “*Calcutta*, by *Shujah Dowla*’s Vaqueel, is without Limits. The Nabob is almost as fully acquainted with “the Parliamentary Proceedings concerning the Company’s Affairs as I am. How far the Importance and “Dignity of the Company, and the Weight and Influence of the Administration is lessened in his Esteem “this



" this Communication, may be easily conceived. Whilst  
" a Vaqueel is so ready and so sure a Channel to com-  
" municate Intelligence, few Men will be found so  
" hardy as to maintain a direct Correspondence with the  
" Nabob; but there is a Man who has obliquely offered  
" so great an Insult to our President, that was I present  
" at the Board, I would move for the Exertion of our  
" Authority to the utmost Extent, to free the Settle-  
" ment from so dangerous an Inhabitant—I mean Mr.  
" *Bolis*, and the inclosed Copy of a Letter (the Original  
" in my Possession) to Mr. *Gentil*, residing in *Shujab*  
" *Dowla's* Court, wherein he asserts an absolute Falsi-  
" hood, which tends to lessen that essential Dignity and  
" necessary Influence of our President, is surely deserv-  
" ing of your severest Reformation. Nor is this the  
" only Letter he wrote; for the Nabob acquainted a  
" Person of undoubted Honour, that Mr. *Bolis* had  
" wrote the fame to *Meer Mejjahab* (formerly Physician  
" and Confidant of *Cassim Ally*) from whom the Nabob  
" heard it. Hereafter I may lay before you other  
" Proofs of the Extent of the Intelligence communicat-  
" ed through the Vaqueel."

Letter to Mr. *Gentil*.

" Dear Sir,  
" It is a long Time since I heard from you, which  
" has made me a little uneasy. I have long intended  
" to come from hence to have the Pleasure of seeing  
" you, as also to pay my Respects to the Nabob, but  
" my Affairs have not as yet permitted me; neverthe-  
" less, it is what I hope to be able to do in a short  
" Time.

" In regard to the Saltpetre, I hope the Disputes on  
" that Subject are ended; but it is not possible for me  
" to abandon my Right for the Advantage of other  
" Gentlemen, who have no other Pretensions than what  
" are founded on Injustice, and who would take the  
" Advantage of my Absence for to deprive me of the  
" Advantage of my Contracts, which have existed a  
" long Time, and which were drawn out with all Pro-  
" priety and Justice, conformable to the Customs of  
" Merchants. If that had been for the Nabob, it would  
" have been another Thing. But before I give up the  
" Point to Gentlemen who are not in any Way my  
" Superiors, I assure you, I will follow the Affair to the  
" last Court of Justice, where I can have Recourse.  
" Next Year I will give over all further Commerce, but  
" in the mean Time, I hope you will help me with your  
" Assistance. My Gomastah *Goudas* writes me, you  
" had informed him, that Colonel *Barker* had wrote  
" Letters to stop all my Business, and to drive away my  
" People; I shall be obliged to you for your Informa-  
" tion on that Subject, for that Gentleman is not autho-  
" rized to act in such a Manner.

" I have taken the Liberty to send you a Letter for  
" *Cogee Rafael*, I beg you will deliver it to him and  
" send me his Answer. I am surpris'd the Nabob has  
" not as yet paid (as they write me) the Amount of the  
" Broad Cloth which my People sold him; if that is  
" true, be so good as to represent the same to him.  
" *Melcomb* writes me, that he also has sent some Cloth  
" from *Dacca* to the Nabob's Camp: I do not doubt of  
" your favourable Assistance for the Sale. I shall be  
" very glad when you give me an Opportunity of ren-  
" dering you any Service here in Return for the Trouble  
" I have given you. I shall never be convinced of  
" your Friendship, unless you give me some Opportu-  
" nity or other, of testifying mine; but you, who are  
" Naib Subah, and immersed in Business, are perhaps  
" above these Trifles. Let it be as it will; I assure you,  
" my dear Sir, that Nobody wishes you better than I  
" do.

" I have wrote a Letter to the Nabob, to whom I  
" beg you will give my humble Respects. There is  
" arrived an *English Europe Ship*, and another *French*

" one. The Affairs of our Company are in great Agi-  
" tation, and are laid before the King and Parliament  
" of *England*, and according to the Letters I have re-  
" ceived, there is a great Likelihood that my Affo-  
" ciate Mr. *Johnstone* will come out Governor from the  
" King. I shall be glad from Time to Time to hear  
" from you; who am, with a most perfect Esteem,

" Dear Sir,  
" *Calcutta*,  
" the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1767.  
" Your most humble Servant,  
" *William Bolis*.  
" P. S. I need not recommend *Mahomed Ahruff*  
" *Caw* to your Notice.

Copy of the President, Mr. *Fereff's* Minute, on Con-  
sultation, the 10 December 1767.

" The President acquaints the Board, that he some  
" Time since received Information of the improper  
" Correspondence carried on by Mr. *Bolis*, with *Shujab*  
" *al Dowla*, Mr. *Gentil*, and many other Persons; that  
" he desired a Gentleman residing up the Country to  
" endeavour to procure a particular Letter written by  
" Mr. *Bolis*, which he effected, and delivered the Let-  
" ter to Colonel *Smith*, who inclosed the same to the  
" Committee; that he can assert from undoubted Au-  
" thority, that Mr. *Bolis* continues his Correspondence  
" with Persons residing at the Courts of the Country  
" Princes, and with his *Armenian* Agents, endeavouring  
" by false Reports and Representations to lessen the Re-  
" spect due to the present Administration, and to de-  
" stroy the Harmony and Confidence subsisting between  
" us and the Powers of *Hindostan*.

" The President is further informed, that Mr. *Bolis*  
" has an *Armenian* Agent at *Fyzabad*, named *Cogee Ra-  
" fael*, another at *Banaras*, *Cogee Melcomb*, and a Third  
" residing near *Ghazipur*, by Name *Cogee Gregory*.  
" Through these People he ungratefully endeavours to  
" injure the Interest of those, in whose Service he raised  
" an Independence: And these *Armenians*, under the  
" Characters of *English* Gomastahs, are striving to estab-  
" lish themselves in *Shujab Dowla's* Dominions, upon  
" the Footing they formerly were at *Murshidabad*; not-  
" withstanding the Nabob, on Account of some Mal-  
" practices, has lately forbidden them his Presence.  
" The President has, however, desired his Excellency to  
" banish all such as are in his Country, under the Pre-  
" text of being Gomastahs to the *English*.

" Mr. *Bolis*, whilst he was in the Company's Service,  
" procured a Number of Dufftucks, pretending he want-  
" ed them to pass his Goods; but he laid them by, un-  
" used, until his Resignation of the Service; since when  
" he has availed himself of them to carry on his Trade  
" Duty free. The President, upon being informed of  
" it, wrote to the Ministers, desiring them to issue Or-  
" ders to the Chokies for stopping all Dufftucks of a very  
" old Date; a Measure which he hopes will put a Stop  
" to so dishonest and unlawful a Proceeding.

(Signed)

" *Harry Fereff.*"

The Committee then read a Paragraph of a Letter  
from the Select Committee at *Calcutta*, of the 22 December  
1767, to Colonel *Richard Smith*, in Answer to his Let-  
ter of the 24 November; as follows:

" We much approve of the Information you have  
" sent us, regarding Mr. *Bolis's* Conduct in the Carrying  
" on a Correspondence with Mr. *Gentil*, at the Court of  
" *Shuja Dowla*, and have laid the same before the  
" Council, whose Sentiments, as well as ours, we with  
" Pleasure observe, entirely concur with those you have  
" expressed on that Subject. We request you will use  
" your Endeavours with the Nabob to remove Mr.  
" *Bolis's* Gomastahs from his Dominions."

The Committee then read the Translations of several  
*Persian* Letters, written or received by Mr. *Fereff*, to  
of

or from the Rajahs or Nabobs of the Country, as stated on the Records of the Company, together with several other Letters: as follow:

Read a Letter written by Mr. Verelst, on the 19 February 1768, to Rajah *Bukwanising*, marked B. N° 12.

"I cannot help being astonished to find, from Colonel Smith's Letters, that Duffucks and Purwannahs under the *English* Name are current in your Districts, and that Gomastahs commit frequent Extor-tions and Oppressions under that Sanction. After the plain Directions which I gave your Vakeel at *Munbedabad*, I am very much surprised that you should have neglected to inform me of these Practices. I now therefore positively write to you, that I will neither grant myself, nor suffer others to grant, any Duffucks with the *English* Seal, for the Conveyance of any Goods, to any Part of the Nabob *Shujab al Dowla's* Territories, only for such Necessaries as may be occasionally going to the Army; and I must further direct you to transmit me a Copy of all Duffucks for Necessaries, the Instant they come to your Hands, that no Room for Evasion or Pretence may remain. As I have frequent Complaints from the Nabob, *Shuja al Dowla*, that divers People assume the Name of *English* Gomastahs, I therefore desire that you would issue positive Orders throughout your Districts for all such Offenders to withdraw themselves without Delay; and you will immediately cause *Choojee Melcomb*, and *Choojee Gregore*, and a *Bengally* named *Ram Setker*, to be sent down under Confinement to *Meba Rajah Shitabry*, for none of these People have any Title to Residence within the Territories of the Nabob *Shujab al Dowla*."

On a Rukah.

"I am informed that *Monf. Camonge*, a *Frenchman*, is now resident, and carrying on a Trade in *French* Commodities, at *Mirzapore*. I am astonished that you should permit *French* Merchandise to pass without Duties, and *French* Gomastahs to reside without Authority. I therefore write to you to send down the aforesaid *Frenchman*, without Delay, to *Patna*, and levy the established Duties. You must give proper Attention likewise, to prevent any of your People from embezzling the Effects and Goods which he may leave behind him."

Read—also a Letter written by Mr. Verelst, on the 27 February 1768, to the Nabob *Shujab al Dowla*, marked B. N° 14.

"I am much surprised to learn from Colonel Smith, that divers People, taking the Name of *English* Gomastahs, have been guilty of great Violence and Extor-tions in your Excellency's Country. Of this I was before entirely unacquainted, or I would have endeavored to have remedied it; nor has any one Authority from me, nor will I in future give any, either for Trade or Residence, in your Excellency's Country. I must therefore make it my particular Request, that, should any one take the *English* Name as a Screen for his Mal-practices, you will immediately cause him to be apprehended, and sent hither, that his Falschhood may meet with due Punishment. You cannot oblige me more than by detecting these Impostors. I write this so positively and strongly, that you may see how ever attentive I am to cut off all Occasion of Uneasiness to you."

On a Rukah.

"I learn that Two *Armenians*, named *Cejab Rafaei*, and *Cejab Efreuan*, are resident at *Fizabad*, and carrying on a Trade there. As this Tribe are of a bad Cast, and their Principles only Falschhood and Impostition, I request that you will give them no Countenance, but cause these Men to be speedily apprehended and sent hither, or issue your Orders to Captain *Harper* for

"that Purpose. As there is no Separation between us, I doubt not you will oblige me in this Matter."

Read—also the Translation of an Extract from an original Letter in the *Bengal* Language, from the said *Ram-funker* to Mr. *Bolis*, as produced by him, dated the 17 March 1768; which was proved by Mr. *Bolis*; viz.

Extract of a Letter from *Ramfunker*, dated at *Chowajab*, the 17th March 1768; to *William Bolis*.

"What shall I write you of the News from *Banaras*? I have received a Letter from the Person I left at *Banaras*, dated the Second *Choytre*; he has wrote to me, that a *Purwannah* has come from the Governor of *Calcutta*, upon the Rajah; ordering him to confine under a Guard, whatsoever People of Mr. *Bolis's* are in those Parts, and send them to *Calcutta*. On this Account, on the First *Choytre*, a Peon of the Rajah's came to demand *Cogee Melcomb* and me; upon his not finding me there, he took *Cogee Melcomb* and confined him. They were seizing my People who are there, and going to carry them away; but Mr. *Jekyll*, and Mr. *Alexander's* Gomastah, named *Soebbaram Paulst*, who was there, said, These People can give no Account of Affairs, they are only here to watch the Warehouse; upon hearing of which, they then desisted. After hearing what passed afterwards, I shall write you the News. If I go to *Banaras*, they will certainly confine me under a Guard; and if I am stigmatized, all outstanding Debts, wherever they lie, will vanish. I therefore desire you will procure and send a *Purwannah* from the Governor there, upon the Rajah, that I may remain at *Banaras* for One Month, settle all outstanding Affairs, and come away. If this is not done, there will be great Difficulties. I am your Servant; what was requisite I have set forth. You are Master; whatever is proper, do it quickly. If they carry me away under the Confinement of a Guard, it is Matter of no Shame to me; for I have not beat any Body, neither have I robbed any Body, that I should fear to go to *Banaras*: But if I go, and, with or without Justice am put into Confinement, and sent to *Calcutta*, your Business will suffer much, and there will be Losses. Understanding this, you will please soon to furnish the Necessary."

Read—also a *Persian* Letter from Captain *Gabriel Harper*; the Translation of which was proved by *Gonybamdahs*; as follows:

Translation from the *Persian*, of an original Order, under the Hand and Seal of Captain *Gabriel Harper*, at *Feyabad*, upon the sending *Cogee Johannes Padre Rafaei* Prisoner, under a Guard of *Sepoys*; to Colonel Sir *Robert Barker*, at *Ilhabad*.

Directed "to *Rafaei*," sealed, "Captain *Gabriel Harper*."

"Trusty among Friends, greeting.—I have received and am acquainted with the Purport of your Letter about your going—send your Necessaries to such Place as you think best; and if you yourself are ready for going, it is necessary that To-morrow Morning, Two Hours before Day-light, you mount and come to me, under Charge of Colonel *Barker's* *Sepoys*, that I may send you to *Ilhabad*.—Those, appointed *Sepoys* only for this, are staying with Impatience in this Place, that they may deliver you to the Colonel, with themselves.—What more shall I write.

(Signed)

"*Gabriel Harper*."

Read

Read—also a Letter from the Rajah *Bukwanting*, to Mr. *Verelst*, received the 23d March 1768, in Answer to his of the 19th, marked C. N° 98.

"After acknowledging the Receipt of Mr. *Verelst*'s Letter, (B. N° 12) your Servant is always devoted to your high Will and Pleasure. *Cejab Malcomb*, who was in *Banaras*, is apprehended, agreeable to your Commands. People are already sent to seize upon Monf. *Canonje*, in *Mirzapore*. *Cejab Malcomb* declares that *Cejab Gregore* has been some Time gone to *Palna*. I have sent proper People in quest of *Senker Churn*, who I hear is in the Districts of *Ghazpore*, and I will immediately disperse the *Purwannas* you have commanded throughout all my Dependencies. Hereafter the Particulars shall be duly represented."

Upon a *Rukah*.  
"It was signified that Monf. *Canonje* is resident at *Mirzapore*, for the Sale of *French* Merchandize, and carries on a Trade there, and that your Servant permits Goods to pass without Duties, and *French* Gomastahs to reside without Authority. The Truth is this, your Servant detained Four *French* Boats for the Space of Two Months, but a Dutuck arriving at that Time from the Vizier *Shujab al Dowlab*, forbidding any Interruption to be offered them, I suffered them to proceed. Now your Servant will execute your Orders."

Read—also a Letter written by Mr. *Verelst* on the 27 March 1768, to the Nabob *Shujab al Dowlab*, marked C. N° 28.

"It is with the greatest Surprise I learn from certain Intelligence, that Mr. *Bolts* has procured from *Fyzabad*, Copies of a Number of Letters I wrote your Excellency. This Matter is of the most serious Moment, and plainly proves there are some Traitors about your Person, who discover the Secrets they are intrusted with. As you may certainly depend upon this, I particularly desire you will make strict Enquiry into the Affair, and punish the Offenders in the most exemplary Manner—seeing if a Person of so little Consequence as Mr. *Bolts* can thus penetrate into the Secrets of your Correspondence, how much more easy can it be for Men of superior Influence and Importance to do the same? I again recommend this Matter to your serious Attention, and, as a Guide to your Enquiry, have some Reason to believe that *Meer Mubballab* and the *Armenians* have been the chief Instrument in effecting this."

Read—also a Letter written by Mr. *Verelst* on the 27 March 1768, to the Rajah *Bukwanting*, marked C. N° 31.

"I am lately informed that you have stopped several Boats, even with Military Stores, though they had *English* Dutucks, and have demanded Duties from the Merchants selling Diamonds, to Mr. *Chamnier*, though he has the Nabob's *Purwannah* to exempt him therefrom. A Respect to the *English* Seal is due from you on all Occasions, and whenever therefore any Dutucks shall come, you will pass the Boats without Delay, and send a Copy of the Dutuck to me, and I will take Care no Abuse is made. The Nabob has a Right to your Obedience in every Thing, and it is therefore a high Offence to act in Contradiction to his Commands. You will therefore abstain from such Behaviour, and pay a due Regard to all his Orders in future."

Read—a Letter produced by Mr. *Bolts*, as written by him to Mr. *Verelst*, dated the 30 March 1768; *via*.

VOL. III.

"The extraordinary Intelligence which I have lately received from *Oudh*, *Ilhababad*, and *Banaras*, puts me to the Necessity of troubling you with this Letter, addressed to you in your public Character.

"I am informed from the best Authority and most substantial Proofs, that *Shujab al Dowlab*, and *Bukwanting* have seized and confined a Number of People under the Denomination of Mr. *Bolts*'s Agents and Gomastahs, not for any Cause of Complaint they have against them, but solely, as they declare they do it by Virtue of Orders received from *Calcutta*.

"The Consequence thereof is, that many People, who have all of them no other Fault than that of having formerly served me, have been confined and ill treated; some who are Merchants and Inhabitants of that Country, on their own Account; many that are now in the Service of other Merchants and *English* Gentlemen; and some few who are actually my Gomastahs, and have Charge of the Recovery (and that only) of my outstanding Debts, amounting to about One hundred and Fifty thousand Rupees. The Concerns of other Gentlemen, and those of the Merchants themselves, who are thus innocently oppressed in Consequence of these Orders, must amount to a much more considerable Sum.

"As those who execute them disavow these unheard-of Acts, which would even disgrace a *Moorish* Government, I am as yet willing to imagine it must have been occasioned by their Misconstruction of the Orders given from hence.

"If any Act of Government had made it necessary to seize and bring down all *English* Gomastahs indiscriminately, from the Dominions of *Shujab al Dowlab*, I should have no Reason to wonder at, or remonstrate to, the Proceedings against those who are really my Gomastahs; while there would yet be Reason for Surprise at the seizing those who are not so, and independent Merchants.

"But while your own Gomastahs for Diamonds, and others for Salt-petre, Opium, &c. who call themselves Gomastahs of Colonels *Smith* and *Barker*, with those of Messrs *Rumbold*, *Russell*, *Alexander*, *Floyer*, *Maddison*, *Chamier*, and many others, both Civil and Military Gentlemen, are not only permitted, but protected, even with Force, in carrying on their Trade in those Parts; the thus singling out mine, with extraordinary Acts of Severity, would seem to imply, that they have been guilty of some extraordinary Faults to deserve it.

"If therefore my Gomastahs have been guilty of any Misbehaviour, to deserve such severe Orders being issued from hence, I request you will please to acquaint me therewith, and who are the Transgressors, that I may immediately dismit them, and appoint others in their Room, to superintend the Collection of my Balances outstanding.

"But if it be only a Misunderstanding (on the Part of *Shujab al Dowlab*, and *Bukwanting*) of the Orders which have been sent from hence, I request a Letter to both those Princes, that those who are my Gomastahs may have the same Protection as yours, and those of the before-mentioned Gentlemen, or of other Subjects, and my Property be equally as secure: And, in the mean Time, so well am I persuaded of their good Behaviour, that I will be answerable (and even, if required, enter into a Bond) for the good Conduct of all such as are mine, not only for any their Acts of Transgression of the Laws of *Great Britain*, but of those of the Country Government also; which, as it appears to me all that can be required, I hope will be satisfactory.

"In the mean Time, whatever may have been the Orders from hence, as I am very apprehensive they have been occasioned by the Misrepresentation which may have been made to you by the Gentlemen Competitors for the Salt Petre

4 A

"Trade,

"Trade, particularly by Mr. Robert Maddison, and his Agent, Mr. John Chamier; the former of whom, during his Visit to *Shujab al Dowlab's* Court, has been trying every Method (in Consequence of the Influence gained over *Shujab al Dowlab*, by his Post in the *Munfykhaneh*) to engross as much as possible of the Salt Petre made in that Prince's Dominions; it may not be amiss to give you Information of the real State of my Concerns.

"Having, during my Stay at *Banaras*, perceived, from the Aptitude of the Country to produce Salt Petre, that great Improvements might be there made in that Branch, I applied myself with some Attention to the Cultivation of it, and with such Success as soon made it the Object of Men more powerful than myself. After my quitting *Banaras*, Disputes soon arose among the Competitors, whereby I became a very great Loser, notwithstanding I was the only Person who satisfied the Country Government for their Duties. Aggrieved by those Proceedings, I addressed myself to Colonel Smith, in a Letter so long ago as the 13th May 1767, to which however I never received any Answer, owing, as I have Reason to believe, from what I have since discovered, to his being a Party concerned, who could not give me Redress without injuring his own Concerns.

"This Salt Petre Concern was one of those of which I formerly gave an Account to the Select Committee. In the mean Time foregoing, from the Behaviour of the different Gomastahs, that the Interest of the Country, and of the Company, would be greatly injured by their Quarrels, and apprehensive that they would in the End occasion Complaints from *Shujab al Dowlab* and *Bukwanfing*, of the same pernicious Nature as those formerly made by *Ceffin Ally Khawon*, and thereby make it necessary for our Government at *Calcutta* to withdraw all Gomastahs from those Quarters; I say, apprehensive of those Evils, and forced by other Oppressions, of which I shall hereafter in due Time take Notice, I thought it best to withdraw my said Salt Petre Concerns.

"And accordingly I have totally desisted from the Prosecution of that Branch for many Months past; my said Gomastahs having only Charge of the Recovery of the outstanding Debts arisen on last Year's Transactions.

"All the rest of my other Concerns likewise consist in outstanding Debts arisen on the Sales of the Company's Outcry Goods, exported from *Calcutta* before I resigned the Service, so that my Gomastahs there have not at present Charge of any Purchases or Sales whatever.

"Moreover, I have the most authentic Proofs in my Hands, that, during the abovesaid Transactions, the King, the Nabob *Shujab al Dowlab*, and the Rajah *Bukwanfing*, were perfectly satisfied with my carrying on the said Trade, being also satisfied for their Duties; which makes it needless for me to speak to the Right I had in common with others, either in the Light of a Country Merchant, a Company's Servant, or other Subject residing under the *British* Government.

"So that it is hard even to guess what just Reasons can be alleged for the present Imprisonment of People, under the Denomination only of my Gomastahs, by Virtue of Orders from hence, unless, as aforesaid, it be in Consequence of the Misperceptions of those Gentlemen who are struggling for Salt Petre, and who (though without Foundation) apprehend that I may continue the Trade this Season, and thereby hurt their Concerns.

"Yet even in that Case, as many others with me are so immediately concerned, and as it is the indispensable Obligation of your Station, to watch for the Security of the Property of all Subjects under the Protection of the *British* Flag in this Country, I can hardly

"imagine that Orders would have been issued from hence, upon the private Information of any Persons, without first giving Notice, taking Measures to secure the Property of the concerned, and fixing a certain Time for transferring the Business to others.

"Since it is always better to prevent, than redress Evils, I have chosen first to apply to you alone, rather than to address the whole Board on Subjects, which if scrutinized, might involve and hurt the Business of many other Persons, especially as you having the entire Direction of the Country Correspondence, Matters of this Nature are best and most easily redressed by you.

"I therefore request the Letters before-mentioned to *Shujab al Dowlab* and *Bukwanfing* to release my Gomastahs (and Property if detained) who may be directed, if you think it necessary, to come down, after Four Months; in which Time, I am sure, they will be able to collect in all outstanding Balances. At the same Time it would be equally as agreeable to me that they should come down immediately, if you can think of any Method of obtaining for me either the immediate Payment or Security for the Amount of my Balances, which are all good, and afford not the least Apprehension of their not being duly recovered.

"At the same Time it appears practicable, to put a Stop to the present Wranglings about Salt Petre, in a Manner that may be very beneficial to the Company, and at the same Time perfectly satisfy the Country Government, and their Ryots, upon a Plan which I would humbly recommend for the Company's Interest, as follows:

"To contract with Merchants for all the Salt Petre that can be made in those Districts on the Company's Account, the said Contractors satisfying the Princes of the Country for their Duties, and also referring for them such a Quantity as they might require for the Use of their own Households, and the Consumption of their own Countries.

"I will engage to find very responsible Merchants who will undertake to execute such a Plan, and engage to deliver, on the Company's Account at *Patna*, for the first Year, 25,000 Maunds of refined Petre, which shall be near Three Times finer than that they have generally received from *Patna*, at a Price to be hereafter stipulated; upon which the Company might be sure of gaining at least Fifteen thousand Pounds Sterling *per Annum* clear, if they were even to sell it again in *Bengal*.

"Other Advantages, which would likewise accrue from such a Plan, are obvious; the Foreign Companies might be supplied with their Allowances from this Petre, and our Company be thereby freed from those large Drawbacks on that Branch of their Trade. And it would also prevent the *French* or *Dutch* from manufacturing it themselves in those Parts, which they will certainly attempt, whenever the *English* Gomastahs are totally recalled. At the same Time it must be remembered, that though the Gomastahs of private Gentlemen be all recalled; yet while our Armies continue in those Parts, there is a great Risk, that, however strict the Orders of the Board be, some or other Gentlemen of Influence with the Army, will find Means to evade them, and to engross the Whole of this Article, in Consequence of their Influence over, and the Ignorance and Fears of, the Country Princes. So that it does not appear possible so advantageously to obviate the Evils apprehended by any other than this Plan, which I have submitted to your Consideration.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,  
(Signed)

"William Boils."

Read—also an original Letter, dated the 31st March 1768, from Mr. Verelst to Mr. Bolts, in Answer to the foregoing; viz.

" To Mr. William Bolts:

" SIR,  
" I have received your Letter of the 30th Instant, and am to acquaint you that I know of no Orders for impeding the Business of your Gomastahs in particular, in the Dominions of *Shujab al Dowlab* and *Bulwantsing*. Repeated Complaints have been received from those Two Princes of the oppressive Conduct of Gomastahs taking the *English* Name, and carrying on Trade in their Countries. The honourable Company have been pleased to express their Orders for the positive Prohibition to their Servants of all Trade whatever in those Provinces, and the Presidency of *Fort William* have resolved to put a Stop to it in future, by a Recall of all such Gomastahs. However, far, or by what Right, your Gomastahs can be allowed to continue there, after the Time already allotted you for the Adjustment of your Concerns, must be determined by the Government here.

" I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

" March 31st 1768.

H. Verelst."

Read—also Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Verelst, dated the 2d April 1768; as follows:

" To Harry Verelst, Esquire,  
President and Governor of *Fort William*.

" SIR,  
" I received Yesterday your Favour of the 31st, in Answer to mine of the 30th past, acquainting me of your Ignorance of any Orders having been given respecting my Gomastahs in particular.  
" You must therefore, I fear, have been grossly abused by those who penned the *Persian* Letters from hence; for, by authentic Copies of them, which I have this Moment received from *Oud*, my Gomastahs are particularly mentioned by Name.  
" I cannot perceive upon what Principle the Government here can undertake to determine what Time shall be allowed me for the Adjustment of my Concerns in those Parts; however, as I have already said as much, I shall, without discussing that Point, willingly submit, as others do, to every general Order; and, as it is your Opinion that the Time to be allotted must be determined by the Government here, I request you will inform me of their Determination, after acquainting them with the Circumstances I have laid before you, that I may know what to do.  
" In the mean Time I apply to you in the Character of an injured complaining Subject, and request Letters to the Nabob *Shujab al Dowlab*, and to the *Rajah Bulwantsing*, inclining to them an Ardasht of my Complaints, of which the following is the Purport.  
" That Mr. William Bolts having had certain mercantile Transactions in your Dominions, as he represents with your Permission, by Virtue of *Purwannahs* given by you, and in Consequence of Duties paid, which Business he avers has been transacted by his Gomastahs in the most peaceful Manner, and according to the Custom of those Countries; on which Transactions, large outstanding Balances have arisen, to the Amount of One hundred and Fifty thousand Rupees. That, notwithstanding this, the Gomastahs of him, the said William Bolts, have been lately seized and imprisoned, in a sudden Manner, without any Cause or Complaint being alleged, that he Wil-

" liam Bolts can discover; while, at the same Time, the Agents and Gomastahs of Governor Verelst, Colonel Smith, Mr. Russell, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Rumbold, and many other British Subjects, are unmolestedly permitted to transact their Constituents Affairs. That Mr. William Bolts, living under British Protection, is intitled to every Privilege others are intitled to: That, therefore, it is required, that those his Gomastahs be released, and allowed the same Protection, and for the same Space of Time, as may be allowed to the Gomastahs of the aforesaid Gentlemen, and that Satisfaction be made to him and them, in case it be proved that they have been unjustly imprisoned, not only in Violation of the Treaties subsisting between you and the *English*, but also against the Laws of *Hindostan*, and of Nations in general.

" At the same Time, Sir, should it be insisted that they have merited this Treatment, I request they may be summoned, after a moderate Time to be allowed me, before the Board of *Calcutta*, to have the same enquired into. But should they be enquired into upon the Spot, I request you will order the Enquiry to be postponed until either I myself can arrive there, and be present, or appoint others.

" I observe, Sir, what you inform me, that the honourable Company have been pleased to prohibit all Trade whatever in those Provinces, and that the Presidency of *Calcutta* have resolved to put a Stop to it in future, by a Recall of all such Gomastahs. It is the first Time I ever heard of it, nor had I the least Conception of it, knowing that even lately you was pleased to give a Letter to the *Rajah Bulwantsing*, in Favour of Mr. Alexander's Business there; however, such a Prohibition of Trade would not affect me; for, as I have before acquainted you, I have nothing depending there but the Collection of outstanding Debts.

" I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

" *Calcutta*,  
the 2d April 1768.

" William Bolts."

Read—also a Letter from the Nabob *Shujab al Dowlab* to Mr. Verelst, as received by him the 3d April 1768, marked C. No 118; viz.

" I received your friendly Letter by the Hands of Captain Harper, and was rejoiced thereby: It is plain that my Friendship with the *English* Serdars, and particularly with your Excellency, is firm; neither does it need the common Phrases of the World to set it off. You also have shewn yourself so profuse of Favours towards me, that I cannot find any Expressions equal to my Sense thereof. I can only wish that the Almighty may give our Connection daily Strength, and our Friendship hourly Warmth. Considering what you write on the Subject of the *Armenians*, as proceeding from your perfect Cordiality, I am delighted therewith: What can be more suitable to our Interest, than that we should mutually exert ourselves in disarming all such as may be the Abettors or Authors of Evil? In the Affair of the Salt Petre, which was the First, every Inquietude was removed, and every Thorn extracted at once, by even a momentary Adversion of your Excellency's Regard. And now that you have written concerning *Rasul* and *Eshwan*, that Matter is done. As they have some outstanding Debts incurred in the Course of their Business here, they petitioned earnestly for Two or Three Days Respite to settle their Accounts. After that they will no more presume to reside here. *Rajah Bulwantsing* has acquainted me with your Excellency's Orders about the *Armenians* in those Districts, and I have instructed him to pay implicit Obedience to what you shall signify on the Occasion, as whatever is agreeable to you, cannot fail of being satisfactory

"satisfactory to me.—For the rest, consider me as one  
"solicitous after your Welfare, and favour me with  
"frequent Accounts thereof."

Read—also the following Letter from Mr. *Bolts* to  
Mr. *Verelst*; viz.

"To Harry *Verelst*, Esquire,  
"President and Governor of *Fort William*."

"SIR,  
"As some Days have elapsed, and I have not been  
"favoured with an Answer to my last Letter, which it  
"is of the greatest Consequence for me to have as soon  
"as possible, to enable me to take the necessary Measures  
"for the Security of my Property, I request you will  
"be pleased to acquaint me what you have determined  
"thereupon."

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"*Calcutta*,  
"7th April 1768."

(Signed)

"*William Bolts*."

Read—the following original Letter from Mr. *Verelst*.

"To Mr. *William Bolts*."

"SIR,  
"I have your Letters of the 2d and 7th Instant, and  
"am again to repeat to you, that the Resolutions  
"taken, and the Orders given, for recalling the *Eng-  
"lish* Gomastahs in the Dominions of *Shujab al Dowlah*  
"and *Bukwanting*, were general, not particular, but  
"that as the Names of such Persons came to my  
"Knowledge, it became necessary to point them out."

"I am also to acquaint you, that Letters have been  
"written, desiring that the Gomastahs may be allowed  
"to collect in their Constituents outstanding Balances;  
"what Time will be deemed proper for that Purpose,  
"will be determined by the Committee, which would  
"have been done before now, had not my Indisposi-  
"tion prevented my having a Meeting with the Gentle-  
"men."

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"*Fort William*,  
"April 9th 1768."

(Signed)

"*H. Verelst*."

Read—the following Letters to and from Mr. *Bolts*;  
viz.

"To Harry *Verelst*, Esquire,  
"President and Governor of *Fort William*."

"SIR,  
"The last Letter you was pleased to send me Yester-  
"day, neither affords the Answer which I flattered  
"myself I should receive to mine, nor Redress of the  
"Grievances I complained of. The People I have  
"wrote to you about, have been sent down under  
"Confinement to *Shitabroy*, the Company's Collec-  
"tor at *Patna*, who has kept them under Confinement."

"In Consequence of your last Letter, I have ordered  
"them back to their Stations; but in the mean Time,  
"as that is not sufficient, I must request immediately  
"Three Letters: One to *Shitabroy* to release them, One  
"to *Rajah Bukwanting*, and One to the Nabob *Shujab  
"al Dowlah*, at least to acquaint them of my People's  
"being ordered back, to continue upon the same Terms  
"as other *English* Agents."

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"*Calcutta*,  
"11th April 1768."

(Signed)

"*William Bolts*."

"To Mr. *John Knott*."

"SIR,  
"As the Multiplicity of Affairs upon Mr. *Verelst's*  
"Hands, may make him forget the Letter I wrote him  
"the 11th Instant, on the Subject of my imprisoned  
"Agents, and to avoid continually troubling him on  
"that Subject, I request you will on the first vacant  
"Moment put him in Mind of it, that I may receive  
"the *Persian* Letters in Time; to prevent many unex-  
"pected and disagreeable Consequences. If you find  
"I am not to expect those *Persian* Letters, a Note sig-  
"nifying Mr. *Verelst's* Refusal will be sufficient; and  
"an Answer procured (if possible, To-day) either in  
"the Affirmative or Negative, will be esteemed a Fa-  
"vour, by,

"SIR;

"Your most obedient,  
"humble Servant,  
(Signed)

"*Calcutta*,  
"the 13th April 1768."

"*William Bolts*."

"To Mr. *William Bolts*."

"SIR,  
"This Moment your Letter of To-day's Date is  
"presented me, the Purport of which rendering it ne-  
"cessary to be communicated to Mr. *Verelst*, he desires  
"me to let you know, that your several late Letters to  
"him (on the Subject of your present Address to me)  
"as well as his Answers thereto, having been laid before  
"the Select Committee, you will receive their Sentiments  
"thereon from the Secretary to that Depart-  
"ment."

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"*Wednesday Noon*,  
"13th April 1768."

(Signed)

"*John Knott*."

"To *Charles Floyer*, Esquire,  
"Secretary to the Select Committee at *Fort William*."

"SIR,  
"Having lately wrote to Mr. *Verelst* several Letters  
"regarding his having ordered into Confinement sundry  
"Persons and Merchants, who are my Agents and  
"Gomastahs, who, in Consequence of those Orders,  
"have been seized in the Nabob *Shujab al Dowlah's*  
"Dominions in a sudden Manner, by Force, plundered,  
"imprisoned, and sent down under Confinement to  
"*Shitabroy*, the Company's Collector at *Patna*, who  
"has there received them as Prisoners, and continued  
"them under Confinement; whereby I am likely to be  
"a Loser of One hundred and Fifty thousand Rupees,  
"exclusive of the Loss accruing to those injured Per-  
"sons in particular. In Answer to those my Applica-  
"tions, I am now referred to the Secretary of the Se-  
"lect Committee, for their Determination thereupon.  
"I therefore apply to you, and request you will please  
"to send me, without Loss of Time, a Copy of such  
"Proceedings as concern me, particularly mentioning  
"the Members present at this Transaction. As one  
"Hour's Delay may be of the most ruinous Conse-  
"quence to my Affairs, I hope you will excuse my  
"Earnestness."

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"*Calcutta*, 13th April 1768."

(Signed)  
"*William Bolts*."

"To Mr. *William Bolts*."

"SIR,  
"The Opinion of the Select Committee, on the Sub-  
"ject of your Letters to the Governor, shall be made  
"known"

" known to you as expeditiously as may be in my  
" Power to transmit it to you:

" I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

Charles Floyer."

" 13th April 1768.

A Letter from Mr. Vereſt to the Rajah *Buwantſing*, written on the 14 April 1768, marked C. N° 32; viz.

" The Nabob *Shujab al Dowlah* had ſo frequently and ſtrongly complained of *European* Gomatahs reſiding in his Territories, and particularly within your Jurisdiction, that I could not reſuſe my Conſent and Encouragement in getting them withdrawn. My laſt Letter was therefore meant to cut off, if poſſible, all future Cauſes of Complaint againſt our Gomatahs, and to quiet the Uneasineſs of our Ally the Nabob, by my Zeal for the Eaſe and Happineſs of his Country. You had made particular Objections to the Conduct of Monſ. *Canonge* before, but it aſſuſhes me to hear the Rigour with which you have treated him, in hurrying him away without a Moment's Reſpite to ſettle his Concerns. Monſ. *Chevalier*, the French Governor, has himſelf large Concerns in Monſ. *Canonge's* Hands, which are now at Stake; and he has given me ſuch an Account of your ſeizing, imprifoning, and mal-treating him, that I cannot conceive any Provocations could juſtify, or any Conſequences ariſe from it, but enormous Loſſes of private Property, without Benefit to the Country. I muſt therefore deſire of you to purſue theſe Matters with another Temper, and more Moderation; and as Mr. *Chevalier* has engaged himſelf reſponſible for Monſ. *Canonge* removing all future Dealings in that Country, and Monſ. *Canonge* has given Proteſtations to the ſame Purpoſe himſelf, you will grant him a Month's Indulgence for the Adjuſtment of his former Concerns, ſeeing he is to contract no new Engagements during that Time. I am further informed that you are collecting Duties upon all Goods which have been formerly tranſported into your Diſtricts; I really can ſee no Reaſon for this, unleſs you mean to make uſe of public Pretences for your private Emolument; and, as I wiſh rather to ſerve our Ally, *Shujab al Dowlah*, really and eſſentially, than gratify private Intereſt or private Paſſions, I deſire you will deſiſt from this Practice in future, and facilitate, as much as in your Power, the Concluſion of Concerns now exiſting, and no more exact Duties on Goods either bought or ſold in your Diſtricts before this Time."

Your Committee then read Part of the Proceedings of a Select Committee held at Fort William in Bengal, on the 15 April 1768, at which were preſent *Harry Vereſt*, Eſquire, Preſident, *John Cartier*, *Richard Eſcher*, and *Charles Floyer*, Eſquires; viz.

The Preſident lays before the Committee the laſt Correſpondence between him and Mr. *William Bolts*, on the Subject of the latter's Concerns in the Countries of *Shujab Dowlah* and *Buwantſing*; and requeſts that the Two following Paragraphs of Mr. *Bolts's* Letter to him, under Date the 2d Inſtant, may be recorded upon theſe Proceedings, as in one of them he acknowledges what the Preſident has long ſince had Intimation of, his carrying on a Correſpondence with the Princes and others of the Country. A Circumſtance which he, the Preſident, deems highly detrimental to the Intereſt of our honourable Employers, and an abſolute Deſiance of their Orders.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. *William Bolts* to the Preſident, dated the 2d April 1768.

" I received Yeſterday your Favour of the 31ſt, in Vol. III.

" Anſwer to mine of the 30th paſt, acquainting me of your Ignorance of any Orders having been given reſpecting my Gomatahs in particular.

" You muſt therefore, I fear, have been groſsly abuſed by thoſe who penned the *Persian* Letters from hence; for by authentic Copies of them, which I have this Moment received from *Oud*, my Gomatahs are particularly mentioned by Name."

The Preſident alſo acquaints the Board, that in his Reply to Mr. *Bolts's* laſt Letter to him, he referred him to the Reſolutions of the Select Committee, before whom he propoſed to lay his Correſpondence for their Conſideration; in Conſequence whereof the Secretary received Two Letters from Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 13th and 14th Inſtant, which are now produced and read. The Secretary begs Leave to obſerve, that the laſt Letter he received was in Reply to one he wrote to Mr. *Bolts*, aſſuring him that as ſoon as the Committee came to any Reſolution concerning him, he ſhould be made acquainted therewith.

Ordered,

That the Two Letters from Mr. *Bolts* be entered into the Proceedings; and that the following Letter be wrote to him from our Secretary.

" To Mr. *William Bolts*.

" SIR,

" I am directed by the Select Committee to inform you, that they, nor the Preſident, know of no Orders for the Confinement of any of your Gomatahs. That Reſentations from *Shujab Dowlah* and *Buwantſing* have made it neceſſary for the Committee to determine on the Recall of all Gomatahs taking upon them the *Engliſh* Name in their Countries. That they think you have no Right to call upon them on this Occaſion, having long ſince had the uſual Time allowed you for the Adjuſtment of all your Concerns, having already been ordered to leave the Country, and adviſed that no further Protection would be given you.

" The Committee are therefore determined not to interfere, or in any Shape charge themſelves with any of your Concerns. I have laid before them your Letters to me, under Dates the 13th and 14th Inſtant.

" I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient Servant,

(Signed)

" Fort William,  
15th April 1768.

" Charles Floyer,  
Secretary of the Select Committee."

Read—alſo the following Letters to and from ſeveral Perſons; viz.

A Letter from *Shitabrey* to Mr. *Vereſt*, received by him the 16th April 1768, marked C. N° 134.

" Your Servant, with all Faithfulneſs, is at no Time wanting in the Diſcharge of your high Commands; but may it pleaſe your Excellency, when the Nabob *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was in *Calcutta*, and the Affair of *Carruckpoort* was taken Notice of in your Conferences, your Servant imagined you would have iſſued your gracious Orders on the Subject to him. It is true, the Affair is ſettled, but your Servant has not been honoured with your illuſtrious Letter concerning it. For ſome Days there have been Two Officers ſtationed, one at *Aſmer* on the *Dewah*, the other at *Chowſab*, for the Examination of *Engliſh* Boats and the Duſtuſts of the Company; and the Colonel informed me that your Excellency's Orders had been ſignified to your Servant for the ſtationing Deputies on the Part of the Government, in the ſame Places; but your Servant made Anſwer, that your Orders on that Head had not reached him. Thirdly, your Servant has received Advice from *Rajah Buwantſing* of your Directions for his ſeizing on the Perſons

of *Caja Melcomb* and *Gregory, Armenians*, and *Monf. Canonje*, a *Frenchman*, and conveying them down to your *Servant*; neither have you honoured your *Servant* with any Intimation of this. As these Three high Commands, all relative to your *Servant*, have been issued without his receiving any direct Orders from your Excellency, so that he might be duly informed, and ready in the Execution thereof, he therefore humbly desires your Excellency would apprise him of your venerable Commands, and not subject him to such disagreeable Alternatives in future. It is highly necessary for your Excellency to incline your Attention hereto.

A Letter from Mr. Verelst to the Nabob *Shujah al Dowlah*, written the 26th April 1768, C. N° 34.

"I am sorry to inform your Excellency, that in Consequence of my Letters to you concerning the *English* Gomastahs, and your Orders thereupon, I find your Officers have exercised a Severity beyond what either of us intended. They have seized and sent away many, without allowing them the shortest Time to adjust their Affairs; and others, from this Kind of Treatment, find it impossible even to receive the Debts lawfully due to them. As those Losses must fall heavy on many Individuals, I think it but just to request your Excellency to indulge them with Two Months Licence, to withdraw their Effects and settle their Affairs, and at the same Time give such Orders to the Officers of your Dominions, that they may lend them all Assistance for the more speedy Dispatch of this Matter. In the mean Time, should any of them misbehave, or interfere in any Thing regarding your Country, I request you would order Mr. *Rumbold* to be made acquainted with it, as he is nearer than myself, and as he is a Gentleman in whose Justice I have the most perfect Reliance, he will punish them in the most exemplary Manner. For this Purpose he has full Instructions from me."

A Letter from Mr. Verelst to the Rajah *Bulwantising*, written the 26th April 1768, marked C. N° 35.

"I before wrote, that the Gomastahs of the *English* Gentlemen should be allowed, as before, to dispose, Duty Free, of what they had imported, or to carry away Goods they might have already provided. I now acquaint you that it is determined that they shall be allowed Two Months from the Receipt of this, for the settling their Affairs, and I desire you will afford them every Assistance herein, that the Business may be speedily brought to an Issue. In this Interval, should you have any Cause of Complaint against any Gomastahs, you will represent it to Mr. *Rumbold* at *Paina*, and he will give you immediate Redress."

A Letter from Mr. Francis Hare, Second in Council at *Paina*, to Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 19 April 1768, which was proved by Mr. *Bolts*; viz.

"I have received your Favour of the 10th Instant, inclosing a Letter for *Ramcantobese*, which I immediately sent him, acquainting him with your Instructions relating to *Melcomb* and *Gregory*, though I do not see what Effect they can have, as they cannot be released but by the Power that confined them. They both left this Place some Time ago, and must have arrived at the City, I think, long before this; so that their Enlargement must be obtained by you. As for me, as I was ordered to

"deliver them up to *Shiboboy*, under Pain of Forfeiture of the Service, though not permitted to put that Order in Execution (for they were sent here Prisoners by *Bulwantising*) I think I cannot venture on a further Application.

"P. S. I answered your Two Favours of the 5th and 26th ult. the 4th Instant."

A Letter under the Hand and Seal of *Cogee Abraham*, a very principal Merchant at the City of *Murshedabad*, to Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 4 Zilledge, which was proved by Mr. *Rafiah*, and translated by *Gonybamsdaji*; viz.

"After the usual Compliments. I received your favourable Letter, with one inclosed for *Moyeen Dowla* (*Mahomed Reza Khawn*) and one for *Rajah Dultbram*, on Monday the 30th Zilcade, at Eight in the Evening; and you desire that I will learn from them and write you the Particulars or Reasons. As *Cogee Melcomb*'s being imprisoned. Kind Sir, I delivered the Letters to the said Nabob and *Rajah*. The Nabob read the Letter, but I have not got an Answer: He said *Cogee Melcomb* has been dispatched from up the Country; in the Morning or Evening he will certainly arrive. After his Arrival I shall write to the Committee, and will speak to you conformable to the Orders which I may receive from thence. The *Rajah* gave for Answer, that he knew nothing of the Affair, and I myself am certain that he knows nothing about it. As soon as I receive the *Rajah*'s Answer I shall forward it—And when *Cogee Melcomb* arrives here, I shall not be deficient in Friendship towards him, and he shall not find Trouble—I am remediless, I have no more in my Power. What shall I write more?

Translation of Part of an original Letter, under the Hand and Seal of *Cogee Abraham*, at *Murshedabad*, dated the 10th Zilledge, to *William Bolts*, proved by *Gonybamsdaji*.

"On the 8th of this Month *Cogee Melcomb* arrived in Town, and he waited on the Nabob *Moyeen al Dowlah Babader*. The said Nabob ordered the coming down of *Cogee Melcomb* in the Garden called *Ferrabag*. He is in the said Garden, but is under a Guard. My Sir, it appears that the said Nabob is waiting for the Orders of the Committee, that he may do according to the Order, whatever comes from thence. If Mr. *Hare* shall speak in the Cause of his Deliverance, I suppose the Deliverance will appear soon, because the said Gentleman is Master of the Business. This is the Subject which is written to you; for to give you the Knowledge of it. What shall I write more?"

A Letter from Mr. *Bolts* to *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, President; *John Cartier*, *Richard Becker*, *James Alexander*, *Claud Russell*, *William Aldersey*, and *Charles Floyer*, Esquires, Members of the Council for the Affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of England; trading to the East Indies.

"Gentlemen,  
"I have been now Thirteen Days waiting for an Answer to my Application to your Board of the 18th April, regarding my imprisoned Agents. They have now been forced down to *Moorshedabad*, where they are also kept under strict Confinement; whereby, exclusive of the Losses accruing to me, not only their Property and Characters, but their Lives also, are endangered. In Answer to the Applications which have been made to the Nabob, he says he is waiting for your Orders from *Calcutta* respecting them.  
"As they are Christians, Men of Substance, and a good Character, Householders of *Cakutta*, and in every



"every Way intitled to the Protection of the British Law, it is incumbent on me, in whose Service, and on whose Account, they innocently suffer those Evils, to repeat my Representations to you on their Behalf; at least so far, that though they lose their Property as well as me, they may yet escape with their Lives, and thereby have an Opportunity, by their future Industry, of preserving their Families from utter Ruin.

"Thus far I petition on Behalf of those innocent and oppressed Merchants.

"With respect to the Redress which I myself have required; by your long Silence on so important and delicate a Point, it is beyond a Doubt, that you, Gentlemen, mean to avow the Proceedings of your President and Select Committee, as referred to in my Address of the 18th April, and to give me no Redress: However, I request the Favour you will let me be acquainted with your Resolution by Letter, in the Manner usual on Applications to your Board, especially as I have a Right to expect such a formal Avowal of public Resolutions wherein I am so much interested.

"I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servant,

"Calcutta, (Signed) "William Bolts."  
2d May 1768.

Your Committee then proceeded to read Part of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council of Calcutta, at a Consultation held on the 4 May 1768, as follows:

"Mr. Bolts sends in a Letter, repeating his Representations to us in Behalf of his imprisoned Agents.

"Ordered, That it be entered after the Consultation.

"Colonel Smith delivers in the following Minute:

"Colonel Smith having perused the Proceedings of the Select Committee, as well as the Resolutions of the Council concerning Mr. Bolts, he now takes this first Opportunity of expressing in Person to the Board those Sentiments which he wrote to the Committee in his Letter of ———.

"It appears from the Consultations of the 5th November 1767, that you determined to repeat the former Orders for Mr. Bolts to proceed to England, and that in Case of Disobedience to those Orders, and Contempt of your Authority, that his Person should be seized, and sent Home Prisoner in one of the Ships of the last Season.

"I have carefully examined your Records, in order to discover if the posterior Conduct of Mr. Bolts had been such as to induce you to postpone or annul your former Resolution; but I find your Resolution stands unrevoked and unexecuted.

"It appears also from the Proceedings of the Select Committee, that Mr. Bolts, ever since this your Resolution of the 5 November, has been corresponding with the Country Powers. This Correspondence is wisely and expressly prohibited to Individuals by the Orders of our honourable Masters.

"If you had not already entered into a Resolution of sending Mr. Bolts to Europe, most undoubtedly I would have made such a Motion; but when I read an unanimous Decree of your Board for taking such Measures on this Occasion as appears absolutely necessary for the public Service, I cannot but conjure you, Gentlemen, to support the Dignity of Government, by enforcing Obedience to your own Resolutions; for should we suffer Mr. Bolts with Impunity to bid Defiance to your Authority, the Consequences are so very obvious, that to mention them is unnecessary. I do therefore move, that the Resolution of the 5 November 1767, shall be carried into Execution; and in Case of Disobedience to your Orders on the

"Part of Mr. Bolts, that he shall positively be sent Prisoner to Europe in the first Ship which shall be dispatched from this Presidency.

"Fort William, Signed "Richard Smith."  
the 4 May 1768.

"The Board still adhere to their former Resolution of sending Mr. Bolts to England. It is therefore agreed and resolved, That he shall be sent to Europe by the first Ship that is dispatched this Season."

Read a Letter from Mahomed Rheeza Khawn to Mr. Verelst, received by him the 3d May 1768, marked C. N° 146; viz.

"Acknowledging the Receipt of Mr. Verelst's Letter (C. N° —) concerning Monf. Canoyne, and inclosing Copies of the Purwanahs signed by Mr. Rumbold, which the Armenians, sent down by Bulwantsing, had, as Gomathais to Mr. Hare."

Read Part of a Letter from Shujah al Dowlab to Mr. Verelst, received by him the 15th May 1768, marked C. N° 161—viz.

Upon a Rukah (or Postscript).

"In regard to Secrets being betrayed, and your Letters exposed which you wrote me concerning; the Cafe is this, That from the first till now we never corresponded on any Secret, except the Affair of the Vizirate, and my being invested with the Privileges thereof, and upon this Subject I have received divers of your Letters; besides this, no other Subject has been wrote upon; the friendly Diligence you have used in this Affair, and the frequent Correspondences we have had on this Subject, being notorious, I do, I own, frequently enlarge on your Goodness and Favour in Public, on your taking so much Trouble for your Friend; but it is impossible, and God forbid that the Secrets of the Company and Council should be discovered, either in past or future; whatever Letters I receive from you, after having read them in private, I seal them up and keep them with all Care: I do not understand in what Manner you have wrote me this; I have taken an Obligation from Meer Musballab on this Matter, and have sent it by the Hands of Captain Harper, who will transmit it to you. You will make due Enquiries from Mr. Bolts, who is with you on the Spot, and get the Copies of the Letters from him which he says he has in his Possession. If it is proved on Meer Musballab, he shall be punished according to the Obligation I have sent you from him; and I have also given positive Orders, that nothing concerning the Affair of the Vizirate, or other Matters, shall be made known to any one. Seeing what Necessity is there for others to be made acquainted, I will enforce these Orders, and you will make the strictest Enquiries; for if Meer Musballab shall have heard any Thing concerning the Affair of the Vizirate which is on foot, and wrote the same, I will punish him also for that; what Business has he with it, and why should he write about these Things?"

Upon a Rukah (or Postscript).

"I have just received Intelligence, that Cossim Ally Cawn has taken his Leave of the Rohillahs, and intends going to the Decan; though I don't think it practicable to get him into our Hands, yet I think he might be easily cut off, Caution and Care is necessary in such Cases; for it is notorious Cossim is a complete Villain, and should he go there what Disturbances will he not raise? It is a Proverb, that an Enemy should be never considered as weak; whatever you shall write me on this Subject, as yours and the Council's Determination, I will act agreeably thereto; but a speedy and determined Answer is necessary."

Translation of *Meer Mufballab's* Obligation, sent by Captain Harper.

" I *Meer Mufballab*, finding that divers evil-minded People have reported that I sent Copies to Mr. *Bolts*, of the Letters which come from the *English* Serdars to his Excellency the Nabob Vizire, (whom God long preserve) and as I never even took a Letter of the *English* Serdars in my Hand, much less could be acquainted with the Purport of them, of take Copies, do therefore agree, and here by these Presents covenant, That if this Thing shall be proved, that I have sent Copies of the Letters of the *English* Serdars to Mr. *Bolts*, or any other; or if ever I discovered to any one, any Secret communicated by his Excellency to me, I shall be deemed guilty before his Excellency. If any Letter under my Seal appears concerning the aforesaid Matter, let his Excellency destroy me and my Family, and punish me as a guilty Person; and, if this is not proved, let the Evil-minded be put to Death, that such wicked and abominable People may take Warning: I have therefore (*Meer Mufballab*) given these Presents as an Obligation, this Ninth Day of *Zibijah*, in the Year of *Higry* 1187."

Seal  
L. O. S.

Read—also a Petition of the Relations of the *Armenians*, as addressed to the Governor and Council of *Fort William* in *Bengal*, dated the 15 May 1768, proved by Mr. *Bolts*; viz.

" To the honourable *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Council at *Fort William*.

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
" We the Subscribers to this humble Address, Relations of *Cogee Melcomb Philip*, and *Cogee Gregore Cojamaul Calder*, beg Leave to represent to your Honours, That our said Relations have, for Six or Seven Years past, been constantly employed by different *English* Gentlemen in the honourable Company's Service, as Agents in the Transaction of their mercantile Affairs, with Honour and Credit to themselves, and to the Satisfaction of their Employers, without having ever interceded in any Affairs of other Nature than mercantile, on the Transaction of which they were latterly left by their Constituents to conclude, and collected in, their outstanding Concerns in the Districts of *Banaras*, *Patna*, &c. That they have been lately seized by Force, and have now been kept in great Distress under Confinement by the Nabob and his Officers, first at *Patna*, and now actually at *Muxadavad*, ever since the Thirty-first March past, without the least Cause for Complaint that we can discover: That, by the said Confinement, the Prisoners are exposed to great Distress, Loss of their Health or Lives, the Ruination of their Families, and of us your Honour: &c. humble Representants: That, on Applications which have been made to the Nabob for their Releasement, he refuses to grant it without express Orders from your Honour, &c. which makes us extremely sorry and apprehensive lest they should have justly incurred the Displeasure of your Honour, &c. In the mean Time we humbly beg Leave to represent, That, should they have been guilty of any Misdemeanors, we are ready to give such Security, either for Money, or their Appearance when called for, as the Nabob can justly require, or to your Honours may appear reasonable; and, as they are Householders of this City of *Calcutta*, and have long enjoyed the Be-

nefit of the Protection of the honourable Company; to whose Interest we will venture to affirm they never acted contrary; we therefore humbly hope your Honours will please to grant an Order for their Releasement, which will be a lasting Obligation conferred on,

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,

" Your most faithful,

" and devoted Servants,

" Mother— <i>Mary Cojamaul Calder</i> ,	} Of Cogee Gregory. Of Cogee Melcomb."
" Wife— <i>Catharine Gregory</i> ,	
" Brother— <i>Zachariah Cojamaul Calder</i> ,	
" Uncle— <i>Aviait Marcar</i> ,	
" Relations { <i>Aviait Calder</i> ,	
<i>Arratoon Calder</i> ,	
<i>Calcutta</i> ,	
" the 15th May 1768."	

The Committee then read a Protest on the Part of Mr. *Bolts* against the Governor and Council of *Calcutta*, for all Losses and Damages consequent of their Imprisonment of the *Armenians*, as the same was presented by *John Holne*, Notary Public, to the said Governor and Council, and stands recorded on their Proceedings of the 18 May 1768.

Read—also the Translation of a Letter from *Shitabroy* at *Patna* to Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 9th May 1768, the Original of which being produced was proved by *Gonybam-doff* as follows:

" After the accustomed *Pershan* Compliments. The Receipt of your most favourable and friendly Letter gave me great Pleasure and Satisfaction; therein you write me, that *Cogee Melcomb* and *Cogee Gregory*, your Gomastahs, had wrote that I had imprisoned them and sent them down to *Murshedabad*, and you request to know what Crimes they had committed to merit such Punishment: Favourable Sir, the *Rajah Bulwanisung*, under Guard of his own People, sent Monsieur *Canonge*, a French Gentleman, *Cogee Melcomb*, and *Cogee Gregory*, down from *Mirzapore* and *Banaras* to me, and at same Time wrote to me; that I must send them down to *Murshedabad* in the very same Manner as they were brought to *Patna*; according to the Writing of the said *Rajah*, Monsieur *Canonge*, the French Gentleman, with *Cogee Melcomb* and *Cogee Gregory*, were dispatched to *Patna*. At that Time it was not known to me that the said *Cogees*, kind Sir, were your Gomastahs." Concludes with the usual Compliments.

Read—also the Translation of a Letter from *Jug-ganunda*, a Man of great Consequence at the City of *Murshedabad*, to Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 24th May 1768, the Original of which was produced, and proved by Mr. *Bolts*; viz.

" On the 2d of the Month *Jyeshth*, I received your favourable Letter of the 31st of *Byssack*, and am acquainted with the Contents, and perceive, that on Account of Two of your Gomastahs, who have been imprisoned and sent here, you had written a Letter to the great Nabob (meaning the Nabob upon the Throne, in Distinction from the acting Naib *Mahomud Reza Khan*) of which you inclose me a Copy: After informing myself of every Particular, I sent the Letter by a trusty Person of my own to the Nabob, with the necessary Respects and Greetings on your Part: Two Days after, he said, I do not know what Answer I can give to this Letter; I have no People I can trust; who can I speak to upon this Affair, or who will mind what I say? Mr. *Bolts* understands well the present Situation of Affairs, that I am Nobody, and nothing can be done by me.

" As you did me the Favour to write to me, I would that in any Manner your Business was done; but according to the present Turn of the Times, nothing

"nothing can be expected. I kept your People, to see if I could do any Thing, but find it is impossible. Sir, you are wife, you comprehend all the Affair.—Dated the 14th *Jyffee*, or 24th May 1768. "P. S. After reading and keeping your Letter Four Days, the Nabob returned it, and I herewith inclose it to you."

Read—also the Abstract of a Letter written by Mr. *Verelst*, on the 29 May 1768, to the Rajah *Bulwanisung*, marked C. N° 46; viz.

"Desiring him to release some Boats belonging to Mr. *Alexander*, which he had detained, and warning him against such Proceedings in future."

Read—also the Translation of a *Persian* Letter from *Boyenaufing*, principal Minister of Rajah *Bulwanisung*, to *Cogee Gregore*; the Original of which was proved by *Gonybandaj*; viz.

After many Compliments in the *Persian* Style, he proceeds,

"I have received your favourable Letter, and am acquainted with the Contents; my Brother, as God Almighty would have it, was sick at *Gungapore*, and therefore, for my Brother's Business, I staid at the Village *Coruna*, where I was Twelve Days, and settled all my Business, and was myself also out of Order. Yesterday I arrived at *Puttilya*, and my dear Friend was not the least acquainted with your Case, till the Receipt of your Letter informed me; nothing of which you complain of has been done by the Maha Rajah *Babader*, but solely and wholly by the Orders of the Gentlemen of *Calcutta*: In this Respect there is no help; accordingly *Bukhtisung* has been wrote to, to do every Thing for you that is becoming of Friendship, and I shall represent to Maha Rajah *Babader* such Things as are proper, and the Almighty will be gracious. On your Arrival in those Parts, please to write to me, that I may have Encouragement in my Mind. For the rest, may Happiness attend you."

Read—also the following Letters; viz.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob *Shajah al Dowlat* to Mr. *Verelst*; received by him the 4th July 1768, marked D. N° 209.

"I wrote you in a prior Letter a full and particular Answer about Mr. *Bolts* and *Meer Musballab*, and I have now repeated the same Circumstances anew to Rajah *Purshed Roy*, from whom you will be informed. I have written my whole Heart, without omitting or disguising any Thing, or deviating the Breadth of a Hair: Agreeable to your own Desire, I some Time ago returned your Excellency all those Letters of yours which related to that Subject; *Meer Musballab* has given an Obligation under his own Hand, which if he has violated, I will immediately bring him to the Punishment contained therein."

An original Note from the Rajah *Bulwanisung*, inclosed for Mr. *Bolts*, in a Letter to the Rajah's Ambassador at *Calcutta*, *Mabarage Misfer*, dated the 24 April 1768, produced and proved by Mr. *Bolts*.

On the Cover sealed "Rajah *Bulwanisung*, Bahadur, directed to the Brammin Effigy of *Brimba Mabarage Misfer*."

"The following you are to acquaint Mr. *Bolts* with."

"I have received your Letter. As to what you have wrote about Mr. *Bolts*'s Gomastahs, you know that I have a Regard for Mr. *Bolts*'s Business, and a Friendship for him from my Heart, and always complied with whatever his Gomastahs requested. When the Nabob, *Harry Verelst*'s Letter came, for sending them, agreeable to that Order I was obliged to send them to Rajah *Shitabroy*; before the Arrival of Mr. *Bolts*'s and your Letters, I had told them; there is no Impediment on my Part."

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An original Letter, written by Rajah *Shitabroy* to Mr. *Bolts*, dated the 31st July 1768, proved by *Gonybandaj*; viz.

"After the usual Compliments—I received your favourable Letter wherein you write, that it appeared to you, my favourable Friend, that another of your Gomastahs, named *Cogee Rasaf*, who was in those Parts, has been imprisoned and brought down to me, and that I had continued the said *Rasaf* under Confinement, and with my own People sent him down to *Murshedabad*; and that as you, kind Sir, are unacquainted with the Crime the said *Rasaf* has committed, to merit my confining and putting a Guard upon him, you therefore request I will acquaint you with the said *Rasaf*'s Crime. My dear Sir, I did not know that *Rasaf* was your Gomastah, nor am I in the least acquainted with any Fault he has committed. Colonel *Parker*, Bahader, wrote to me, that he had dispatched to me *Cogee Rasaf* and Two other *Armenians*, who in the Nabob *Shitabroy*'s Country had been in Confinement under Captain *Harper*, who had sent them to him, Colonel *Parker*; accordingly I dispatched them to the Nabob Khan *Khanan Mobarez al Mulk Babader*, at *Murshedabad*; the Particulars of their Faults or their Innocence must be well known to Mr. *Harper* himself; with respect to me, kind Sir, do not believe me capable of any thing contrary to the strictest Friendship towards you, you shall know me your own Friend."

Your Committee then proceeded to read the Memorial of the *Armenian* Gentlemen, *Gregore Cojanaut* and *Johannes Pedro Rasaf*, as presented to the Court of East India Directors, dated London, the 12th September 1769; viz.

"To the honourable the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

"The humble Petition of *Cogee Gregore Cojanaut* and *Cogee Johannes Pedro Rasaf*, *Armenian* Merchants, late of Bengal;

"Humbly Sheweth,

"That your Petitioners, who are Natives of *Ispahan* in *Persia*, have, for many Years, resided in *India*, particularly in the Provinces annexed to *Bengal*, and in the Dominions of the different Princes bordering upon those Provinces; where they have carried on, for themselves and others, a very extensive Trade, always with the Permission and Approbation of the different Princes, in whose Dominions your Petitioners resided, always paying the Duties exacted by such Princes, and always cheerfully submitting themselves to the Laws of such Countries.

"That it has ever been the Custom, from Time immemorial, for *Greeks*, *Georgians*, *Turks*, *Persians*, *Tartars*, *Cashmireans*, *Armenians*, and other Nations, to resort to, and traffic in, *India*, where the Country Nabobs, sensible of the Benefits arising from the Resort of Foreign Merchants, and the Increase of Trade, have at all Times encouraged such Persons to the utmost of their Power.

"That, besides their own Traffic, your Petitioners likewise, for about Seven Years last past, have been honoured with Business upon Commission from sundry *English* Gentlemen, several of whom are now in *England*.

"That your Petitioners, in such Transactions, have ever acted to the Satisfaction of their Constituents, and with Credit to themselves, having ever studiously avoided interfering in any other than their own mercantile Affairs; and as they have ever been Well-wishers to the honourable *English East India Com-*

pany,

"pany, having never, in the most distant Manner, acted contrary to the Interests of that Company,

"That your Petitioners were lately resident in the Dominions of the Nabob *Shujah al Dowlah*, and the Rajah *Bukwanting*, who, to the great Surprise of your Petitioners, received Orders from your Presidency of Calcutta, or Fort William, to banish your Petitioners out of their Countries.

"That those Princes communicated the Orders which they had received from your said Presidency to your Petitioners, who had the Honour to be favoured with the Friendship of the said Princes, who proposed various Expedients to screen your Petitioners from Violence, as your Petitioners can shew by authentic Documents in their Hands, to the Satisfaction of this honourable Court.

"That the Friendship of those Princes having induced them to evade the immediate Execution of such tyrannical Orders, for which they knew no Cause, your President, Mr. *Vereff*, wrote again in repeated Letters, and in the most peremptory Terms, to have your Petitioners seized, imprisoned, and sent down into the Company's Provinces to Patna and *Murshedabad*; and, for Fear of further Delays or Evasions, Orders were given to the immediate Servants of the *English* Company, who were employed to seize and imprison your Petitioners, as they are likewise ready to prove, to the Satisfaction of this honourable Court, by authentic Documents and Writings, under Hand and Seal of the said Company's Servants.

"That accordingly your Petitioners were seized in the most sudden, cruel, and inhuman, Manner, and brought down to the Company's Factories at Patna and *Murshedabad*, being obliged to quit instantly all they were possessed of in that Country, to a very considerable Amount, together with their Books and Papers, and the Effects of many other Persons with which they were intrusted, and for which they are amenable.

"That during the Confinement of your Petitioners, the Relations of your Petitioners did deliver to your President, Mr. *Harry Vereff*, sundry Petitions, particularly one of the 15th May 1768, and one of the 13th June 1768 (which your Petitioners imagine stand recorded upon your Calcutta Consultations) requesting the Releasement of your Petitioners, and offering to give any such Security for Money, or the Appearance of your Petitioners, as might appear reasonable to your said President and Council.

"That the said Petitions were paid no regard to, but your Petitioners were continued under Confinement; your Petitioner *Cogee Gregore Cojamaul* having been confined from the 14th March 1768 to the 23d May 1768, being Two Months and Nine Days; and your Petitioner *Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael*, from the 27th March 1768 to the 28th August 1768, being Five Months; during which Time they were treated worse than convicted Felons; *Cogee Rafael* being first imprisoned in a Horse Stable, and afterwards both kept in close Confinement, under a strong Guard of the Company's *Sepeys*, with fixed Bayonets, who never suffered your Petitioners to stir out of their Sight.

"That being at last released from Confinement, your Petitioners and their Friends waited upon your President, Mr. *Harry Vereff*, not only to be acquainted what were the Causes of his Displeasure, and why they had been confined, but requesting Leave to return up the Country, to secure their Effects and outstanding Concerns, thereby to preserve themselves and Families from Ruin; but, to the Misfortune of your Petitioners, all their Applications were paid no Regard to, nor could they ever obtain any Satisfaction, or be acquainted why they had been thus capriciously imprisoned for so long

"a Time, and then set at Liberty, without being accused of even a fictitious Misdemeanor.

"That to the great Astonishment of your Petitioners, upon their Arrival in Calcutta, they were informed that your Governor, Mr. *Harry Vereff*, and his Council, had been pleased to publish an Edict, under Date the 18th May 1768, prohibiting all *Armenians* and *Portuguese*, and their Descendants, from residing or trading in any Part out of the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, or from attempting to transport any Merchandize beyond those Provinces, under Penalty of the utmost severe Corporal Punishment, and the Confiscation of such Merchandize; an attested notorial Copy of which most extraordinary public Edict is in the Hands of your Petitioners, for the Inspection of this honourable Court.

"That your Petitioners were hereby not only deprived, among others, of those Rights which were due to them as Men from the Law of Nations, but were deprived of that Freedom of Trade which their Nation had always enjoyed in the Times of the worst of the ancient black Nabobs; and in particular, were also deprived of all Hopes of ever recovering those Effects, from which they had been thus forcibly and capriciously taken.

"That your Petitioners, who have been therefore necessitated, at a great Expence, to come to England for Justice, now appeal to the Equity of this honourable Court, requesting that they will either indemnify your Petitioners for the great Losses they sustain, or that they will please to order Home to answer for themselves, the President, Mr. *Vereff*, and such of the Company's Servants, as to this honourable Court may appear to have been the acting Persons in the Oppressions complained of:

"And your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.

"London, the 12th September 1769."

"*Cogee Gregore Cojamaul*,  
"*Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael*,

Your Committee then read a Letter from the Petitioner, *Gregore Cojamaul*, to the Court of *East India* Directors, dated the 29th February 1772, together with the Answer thereto; as follows:

"To the honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

"Honourable Sirs,  
"Being acquainted by Governor *Johnstone*, that he was informed by One of the Directors of the *East India* Company, upon presenting my Petition to Parliament, that the Court of Directors had officially transmitted the Memorial I delivered to them, of the 12th September 1769, to their President and Council of Bengal, and that they had received a full and explicit Answer from thence, with specific Charges, by the said Ships; in Consequence of such Information, I now make my most humble Application to the Court, that they will be pleased to furnish me with a Copy or Copies of such Answer and Charges; which I hope in common Justice cannot be denied me, as I must ever presume the Directors are equally inclined to blame their Servants when culpable, as to defend them when innocent; and that the Protection of the Inhabitants of Bengal is a principal Part of their Consideration.

"I am, with great Respect,  
"Honourable Sirs,  
"Your most obedient, humble,  
"and devoted Servant,  
"London, 29th February 1772."  
"*Gregore Cojamaul*."

At

At a Court of Directors of the United East India Company, held on *Wednesday* the 11th March 1772. The Court, on Consideration of a Letter from *Gregory Cojamaul*,

Ordered, That the following Answer be given to the same, and transmitteth to him accordingly :

" Our general Letter, in Answer to what we wrote to our Governor and Council, on the Subject of the *Armenians* Petition, laid before the Court of Directors in 1769, contains many Matters very improper to be communicated on the present Application made by the *Armenian, Gregory Cojamaul*; but so much as materially concerns the Justification of our Presidency with respect to those Persons, is to this Effect; they refer to the Country Correspondence transmitted to us in 1768, and to their Proceedings in December 1767, for the Particulars of this Matter; that these *Armenians* were discovered in carrying on Intrigues at the Court of *Sujab Dowlab*, and that there was strong Presumption, that they were the Instruments of obtaining for Mr. *Bolts*, Copies of our President's Correspondence with the Vizier; not to mention the Experience they before had of the intriguing Spirit of the *Armenians*, during the Government of *Coffin Ally Canun*.

" That at this very Time, notwithstanding an Order in Force, prohibiting the Residence of Gomastahs of *English* Gentlemen in the Territories of *Sujab Dowlab* and *Bukantasing*, or indeed any where without the Provinces, Mr. *Bolts*, in Defiance of this Order, would presume to continue his Agents; and that as it should seem, not merely to wind up his old Concerns in Trade, but to engage in new ones. From these Considerations, they hope it will clearly appear their Removal did not proceed from a Motive of Resentment, either against Mr. *Bolts* or the *Armenians* themselves.

" That it does not appear to the Council, that the late President *Verelst* was the immediate Instrument of their Removal, as had been insinuated; but that it was an Act of the Princes themselves, and entirely optional on their Parts; but, admitting even that the Order should have come immediately from the President, or that the Company's *Seppys* had been employed, they presume they should stand fully justified for such an Exertion of Authority, against Persons who not only set their Orders at Defiance, but were likewise busied in these Schemes and Intrigues, of the most dangerous Tendency to Government."

Mr. *Johannus Padra Rafael*, another *Armenian* Merchant, being called upon to give an Account of his being taken up to the Time of his Release, said,

I was in *Fylabad* the 27 March 1768, when Captain *Harper* sent Two Parties of *Seppys*, and they took me Prisoner, and carried me to Captain *Harper's* Tent. He sent his Munshi to know the Reason why we came at such an improper Hour. I said, your Master knows the Reason why your *Seppys* brought me here. As soon as I spoke to the Munshi, Captain *Harper* came out, and said, I must send you to *Calcutta*.—I answered, for what Reason? he said, angrily, That Mr. *Verelst* had sent a Letter, and you must go immediately. I represented the Distress my Affairs would suffer, if I had not Three or Four Months Time to settle them, and entreated some Delay; he said, I shall give you Three Days. I represented, that I should be ruined if I had not more Time allowed me. I was put under Confinement in my own House, and kept from the 27 March to the 31st May, strictly guarded by *Seppys*. On the 2d May I was sent to *Ilababad*, and arrived there the 10th May. I was kept till the 30th in the open Air. I applied by Captain *Gravely* to be released, but without Success. The 2d June (still under Confinement) I was sent to *Paina*, where I arrived the 28th; I was Ten Days at *Paina* under Confinement. I ap-

plied to *Shirabroy* to be released, but without Success. On the 15th July I arrived at *Murshadabad*. I was brought before the Nabob. I pleaded, that as a Merchant, I apprehended I might go where I pleased, paying the Duties. The Nabob said, There was now a new Regulation, and that could not be; and then demanded an Obligation that I would not go up to the high Country to trade, under the Pain of Confiscation of my Goods. I refused to give the Obligation, and was confined in a Stable, without Meat or Drink, for Twenty-four Hours. I was then imprisoned in a dark dirty Place, worse than a Stable, till the 22d August. I made Application to *Mahomed Reza Khawon* to be released; he said, he could do nothing without Orders from Mr. *Verelst*. The Subahdar, or Commander of the *Seppys*, told me some Days after, that the Nabob had been to wait on Mr. *Sykes*, to know whether he had any Orders from the Committee, and upon his Return I was ordered to be released. The Subahdar demanded Sixty Rupees, which I not being able to pay, was by his Authority detained Three Days longer, when, upon Payment of the Money, I was released; but Directions were given me not to go to the upper Country, and accordingly I went to *Calcutta*. During my Confinement, Money was frequently extorted from me by the *Seppys*: It cost me, during my Imprisonment, Two thousand Rupees, the greatest Part of which was forced from me by the *Seppys*.

*Martis*, 12<sup>th</sup> die Maii 1772.

Colonel *Burgoyne* in the Chair;

P R E S E N T,

Lord <i>Falkstone</i> ,	Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> ,
Mr. <i>Vane</i> ,	Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,
Sir <i>G. Elliott</i> ,	Mr. <i>Stracey</i> .
Mr. <i>Trecotick</i> ,	Mr. <i>Sutton</i> :

Read a Paper as sent up, pursuant to Order, by the East India Directors, intitled, " An Agreement between the Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the East Indies, and the *Armenians*, dated the 22d June 1688, as follows; viz.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the East Indies, Agreements with the *Armenians*, dated the 22d June 1688.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the East Indies, to all to whom these Presents shall come, send Greeting. Whereas Representation hath been made to us by Sir *Josiah Child*, Baronet, our Deputy Governor, that upon long Conferences by him had with *Coja Panous Calendar*, an *Armenian* Merchant of Eminency, and an Inhabitant of *Spahan* in *Persia*; as also with Sir *John Chardin*, of London, Knight, they had, on Behalf of the *Armenian* Nation, propoled to him several Particulars for carrying on a great Part of the *Armenian* Trade to India and *Persia*, and from thence to Europe, by Way of England; which will redound greatly to His Majesty's Advantage in His Customs, and to the Encrease of the *English* Navigation, if the *Armenian* Nation might obtain such Licence from this Company as will give them Encouragement so to alter and invert the ancient Course of their Trade to and from Europe: And we being always willing to encrease and encourage the public Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, after a serious Debate of all the Propositions relating to this Affair, have thought fit to agree and resolve as follows; viz.

" First, That the *Armenian* Nation shall now, and at all Times hereafter, have equal Share and Benefit of all Indulgences this Company have, or shall at any Time hereafter grant to any of their own Adventurers, or other *English* Merchants whatsoever.

" Secondly,

" Secondly, That they shall have free Liberty at all Times hereafter to pass and requis to and from India, on any of the Company's Ships, on as advantageous Terms as any Freeman whatsoever.

" Thirdly, That they shall have Liberty to live in any of the Company's Cities, Garisons, or Towns, in India, and to buy, sell, and purchase Land or Houles, and be capable of all civil Offices and Preferments, in the same Manner as if they were *Englishmen* born, and shall always have the free and undisturbed Liberty of the Exercise of their own Religion. And we hereby declare, that we will not continue any Governor in our Service, that shall in any kind disturb or discountenance them in the full Enjoyment of all the Privileges hereby granted to them; neither shall they pay any other or greater Duty in India than the Company's Factors, or any other *Englishman* born, do or ought to do.

" Fourthly, That they may voyage from any of the Company's Garisons to any other Ports or Places in India, the *South Seas*, China, or the *Manillas*, in any of the Company's Ships, or any permissive free Ships allowed by the Company; and may have Liberty to trade to China, the *Manillas*, or any other Ports or Places within the Limits of the Company's Charter, upon equal Terms, Duties, and Freight, with any free *Englishmen* whatsoever.

" But whereas all Persons in England do pay for Bullion Outwards Two per Cent. for Freight and Permission; and Three per Cent. Homewards for Diamonds and other precious Stones; it is hereby declared and agreed, that the *Armenians* shall pay Three per Cent. Outwards for Bullion, and Two per Cent. Homeward for Diamonds; for Coral and Amber Beads they shall pay Six per Cent. for Freight and Permission; and for Coral, Amber, Raw Cochineal, Quicksilver, Sword Blades, Fire Arms of all Sorts, Haberdashery Wares, Iron of all Sorts, wrought or unwrought, Paper, all Sorts of Stationary Wares, *English* Looking or Drinking Glasses, and for all Sorts of *Norimberg* Wares and Merchandizes, Ten per Cent. for Permission, and Six Pounds per Ton Freight. That all Sorts of Leather, *Venetian* Wares, and Merchandizes, may be shipped out Permission free, paying only Six Pounds per Ton Freight; for all Cloth or Woollen Manufactures, of what Kinds or Sorts soever, they shall pay Twelve and a Half per Cent. in Lieu of all Charges whatsoever, excepting only the Freight and the Company's Customs in India; for Lead, Ten per Cent. Permission, and Three Pounds per Ton Freight; for Provisions of all Sorts, for eating and drinking, Six Pounds per Ton Freight, but no Permission; and for all Sorts of Goods Homeward bound, they shall pay in Manner and Form following; viz.

" For Diamonds, Pearls, Rubies, all Sorts of precious Stones, and Ambergreece, Two per Cent. Freight, and Permission as aforesaid; for Musk of any Kind, Six per Cent. for Freight, and Permission; for Pepper, One Penny per Pound; and for Coffee Ten per Cent. Permission, besides Freight; for all Raw Silk of *Perfia*, Twenty-one Pounds per Ton Freight, but no Permission, Custom, or any other Charges whatsoever, excepting only Two and a Half per Cent. towards Demurrage of our Ships; for all Goods whatsoever, of the Growth and Manufacture of *Perfia* (red *Carmenia* Wool excepted, which is hereby totally prohibited) Ten per Cent. Permission, and the same Freight as the Company themselves pay, without any other Charges whatsoever; for all Sorts of China and *Bengal* Goods, during the Company's Indulgence for those Kinds of Goods, and no longer, in what Place soever laden, Thirteen per Cent. for Permission, and all other Charges whatsoever, over and above the same Freight as the Company pay, and the Customs hereafter mentioned; viz. All Goods Outward and

" Homeward bound are to pay the Company in *East India*, Five per Cent. Custom on the first Cost, as per Invoices of the said Goods, whether they be laden from, or delivered into, any of the Company's Ports or Places, or into any other Ports or Places whatsoever; excepting only from this Article, all Bullion, Diamonds, and other precious Stones, Ambergreece, Musk, and Raw *Perfian* Silk. And it is agreed, That the Permission Money and Freight for all Goods Outward bound, to be paid in India as aforesaid, shall be accounted for at Eight and a Half Rupees per Pound Sterling upon Hypothecation of the Goods to the Company in London; and we do declare, that for Ease of Accounts, the Custom due to the Company in *East India*, is to be included together with the other Charges, viz. Freight and Permission, according to the Premises, and all inserted in one Sum, upon the respective Bills of Lading, which Sum is always to be paid before the Delivery of the Goods to the Persons mentioned in the said Bills of Lading, which is the true Intent of the Hypothecation before expressed. That all Goods which have once paid Custom, are not to pay any again, either upon Importation or Exportation of the said Goods, to the Place where they first paid it, or to any other Port or Place belonging to us in the *East Indies*. That every Person that shall take Passage on any of the Company's Ships, shall pay in *East India* Twelve Pounds Sterling for his Permission Outwards, at the Rate of Eight Rupees and a Half per Pound Sterling; and the like Sum to be paid here for every Person that shall take Passage Homeward, besides Eight Pounds per Head for Sea Provisions, which it is hereby agreed shall always be paid in London; and for such Persons who shall board at the Captain's Table, they shall pay Ten Guineas each to the Captain for the same. But the Servants shall be mesed apart by themselves, and always have the same Allowances of Ship Provisions as the Officers and Seamen of the Ship have, or ought to have. And it is also granted to the said *Armenians*, that the Passengers shall be allowed, both Out and Home, to carry with them their Wearing Cloathes, Furniture, and Provisions, not exceeding One Quarter of a Ton for each Man, Freight free. And whereas the said *Armenians* have used to drive a great Trade from India to Turkey Overland, by the Way of *Perfia* and *Arabia*, and are now desirous to drive that whole Trade by the Way of England: It is hereby declared and agreed, That the said *Armenians* have Liberty to send, upon any of the Company's Ships for England, any Sorts of Goods of *East India*, consigning them to the Company by true Invoices and Bills of Lading, and not otherwise, paying Ten per Cent. Permission on the Value of the said Goods in London, besides the same Freight as we ourselves pay. And it is hereby declared, That the Company have Liberty to detain and keep in their Possession all such Goods as shall be consigned unto them as aforesaid, until they have shipped them off upon *English* Shipping bound for Turkey, Venice, or Leghorn, and taken Security; yet they shall not be landed in any other Ports or Places of Europe, except the Place to which they shall be consigned, according as they shall be directed, by the said *Armenian* Proprietors, or their Agents. And lastly, it is declared and agreed, That notwithstanding any Thing aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the said Company to reserve and keep for their own Use, any of the said Goods so intended for Turkey as aforesaid, paying the Proprietors one third Part clear Profit on the first Cost of the Goods as aforesaid, all Freight, Charges, and Disbursements whatsoever, being first deducted and fore-prized, Eight Rupees in India being in this Case to be accounted for One Pound Sterling. In Witness whereof, the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Three of the

" Committee of the said Company, have hereunto set their Hands, and caused the larger Seal of the said Company to be affixed, this Two-and-twentieth Day of June, Anno Domini 1688, and in the Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, James the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

(Signed)  
 " Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,  
 " Yofia Child, Deputy Governor,  
 " . . . . . Worcester,  
 " John Moore,  
 " George Boun."

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading into the East Indies, to all to whom it may concern, send Greeting: Whereas Coja Panous Kalendar, an Armenian Merchant of Eminency, and an Inhabitant of *Ispahan in Persia*, hath taken great Pains in making an Agreement with the said Company, for a great Trade to be carried on in *English* Shipping, by himself and others of the *Armenian* Nation; the said Governor and Company, in Consideration thereof, do, by these Presents (at the Request of the said Coja Panous Kalendar) freely grant unto him and his Family, the sole Trade of *Garnate*, he paying Ten per Cent. Custom for the same, and the usual Freight paid by the Company. And the said Company do hereby declare, that they will neither trade in the said Commodity themselves, nor suffer any other Persons, *English*, or Strangers, for the future, to trade or traffic in that Commodity. Given under the Company's larger Seal, as also under the Hands of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Three of the Committee, of the said Company, this Two-and-twentieth Day of June, Anno Domini 1688, and in the Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, James the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

(Signed)  
 " Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,  
 " Yofia Child, Deputy Governor,  
 " . . . . . Worcester,  
 " John Moore,  
 " George Boun."

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies, to all to whom it may concern, send Greeting: Whereas it hath been represented unto us, that the *Armenian* Nation have a great Desire to carry on a Trade and Commerce with our People in the East Indies, we do, for the better Encouragement of that Nation, to settle and cohabit in the several Garisons, Cities, and Towns, in the East Indies, under our Jurisdiction, by these Presents, declare, grant, and agree, that whenever Forty or more of the *Armenian* Nation shall become Inhabitants in any of the Garisons, Cities, or Towns, belonging to the Company in the East Indies, the said *Armenians* shall not only have and enjoy the free Use and Exercise of their Religion, but there shall be also allotted to them a Parcel of Ground to erect a Church thereon, for the Worship and Service of God in their own Way; and that we will also, at our own Charge, cause a convenient Church to be built of Timber, which afterwards the said *Armenians* may alter and build with Stone, or other solid Materials, to their own good Liking; and the said Governor and Company will also allow Fifty Pounds per Annum, during the Space of Seven Years, for the Maintenance of such Priest or Minister, as they shall chuse to officiate therein. Given under the Company's larger Seal, as also under the Hands of the Governor and Deputy Governor, and Three of the Committee, of the said Company, This Two-and-twentieth Day of June, Anno Domini 1688, and in the Fourth Year of the Reign Vol. III.

" of our Sovereign Lord, James the Second, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.

(Signed)  
 " Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,  
 " Yofia Child, Deputy Governor,  
 " . . . . . Worcester,  
 " John Moore,  
 " George Boun."

Your Committee then proceeded to read Part of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council at *Calcutta*, at a Consultation held the 3d March 1766; at which were present Lord Clive, General Carnac, Harry Verelst, Francis Sykes, Randalph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Claud Russell, William Aldersey, Thomas Kelsall, and Charles Floyer, Esquires, viz.

" It appearing from undoubted Authority, that one Coja Mokil, an Armenian, has filed in the Mayor's Court, a fictitious Suit against *Jebanna Marcat*, an Armenian Widow, merely with a View to evade the Demands of the Country Government, with which she has large Accounts, and has therefore taken Refuge here without our Knowledge; and as nothing is so difficult as to investigate Collusion of Parties to the Satisfaction of Law, the Court may not have the Power of Redress, though convinced of the Fact—Agreed therefore, to put a Stop to Practices so prejudicial to the Company's Affairs, as they must necessarily interfere with the Revenues, That the Board interpose their Authority, as President and Council, and withdraw the Company's Protection from both Parties, turning the Complainant immediately out of the Settlement, and the Defendant as soon as the may be regularly released from the Sheriff's Custody."

Read also the 59th and 60th Paragraphs of a Letter from the Court of East India Directors to their President and Council at *Bengal*, dated the 4th March 1767; viz.

Par. 59. " As to the collusive Suit you mention to be brought in the Mayor's Court, by Coja Mokil against *Jebanna Marcat*, with a View to evade the Demands of the Country Government: The Charter empowers the Mayor's Court to entertain Suits between Natives, if the Defendant does not object to the Jurisdiction, and after Judgment the Plaintiff has a Right to the common Process of the Court, for obtaining Satisfaction against the Defendant's Body or Goods; and upon commencing every Suit, if the Plaintiff makes Oath of his Debt, he may hold the Defendant to Bail; and in that Case, where he is imprisoned for want of Bail, or is taken in Execution after Judgment, he must remain in Custody, as in ordinary Cases. Where no Suit is depending, and Parties seek Refuge in our Settlements who have defrauded the Country Government, you may, on a proper Representation, withdraw our Protection, and suffer the Country Powers to apprehend and deal with them according to their own Laws; but we are of Opinion, you have no Right to banish any Party, Plaintiff, or Defendant, who may be guilty of these Collusions. If there is no Debt really due from the Defendant to the Plaintiff, most certainly the Action or Suit is an Abuse of the Process of the Court, and the Mayor's Court may, as the Courts of Law and Equity do here, upon Proof of such Collusion, imprison the Parties for a Contempt of the Court; but we know of no Law that will justify a Sentence of Banishment in Cases of this Kind.

Par. 60. " The best Method we can advise, as a Means to prevent these collusive Suits, is, that the Mayor's Court do immediately publish a Rule of Practice to this Effect, viz. That in every Case where a Suit is brought in that Court by *Indian* against *Indian*, wherein the Defendant is held to Bail, it shall be  
 4 D " full y

"fully specified and set forth in the Plaintiff's Affidavit  
 "of the Debt, where the same was contracted, the Time  
 "when, and the Nature of the Debt; whether upon  
 "Bond, Note, or how otherwise, and for what Confide-  
 "ration, actually and *bona fide* given or paid; and in  
 "every Case where the Cause of Action is not sworn to  
 "arise within the Limits of the Settlement, the Mayor's  
 "Court ought to refuse to issue Process for arresting the  
 "Defendant."

Mr. *Perrell* was then called, and asked,

Q. What do you know with respect to the Imprisonment of the *Armenians*, the Cause of it, and by whose Authority they were confined?

A. I should be very glad to give any Account in my Power to the Committee of those Transactions; but as the Petitioner *Cojamaul*, and *Kesaul*, another *Armenian*, have commenced Suits against me, both in Chancery and the Court of Common Pleas, to which I have a Defence, and don't doubt a full Justification; and as those Suits are now depending, I am advised by my Council not to answer before this Committee, Matters which are the Subject of those Suits; I therefore wish to decline answering the Question.

Mr. *Bolts*.

Q. What Time did you resign the Company's Service?

A. I believe in November 1766.

Q. When was it first notified to you, by the Governor and Council, that you should return to England?

A. A few Months after I resigned the Service, but while I was a Magistrate of the Mayor's Court.

Mr. *Cojamaul*.

Q. After you had got the Purannah, and was in *Sajab al Dowlah's* Country, did you do any Business for Mr. *Bolts*?

A. I did no new Business for Mr. *Bolts* after the Date of that Purannah.

Q. What Business did you?

A. I gathered in some Money for him, and sold his remaining Goods.

Q. Do you know of Mr. *Perrell's* applying in Writing to the Nabob, *Mahomed Rbeza Khan*, at the Request of *Cogge Melemb*, for him to proceed to *Patna*, in order to receive his Effects in *Sajab Dowlah's* Country after your Arrival in *Calcutta*.

A. I know of no Application.

Mr. *Bolts*.

Q. Was you forced out of the Country?

A. I was, by a Party of 28 armed Soldiers, by an Order of Mr. *Perrell*, and the rest of the Council: I had refused to go. Captain *Coxe* came to me early in the Morning of the 23d September 1768; kept his Guard at a Distance; showed me the Order that he had from the Governor and Council, and told me that he must take me away, if I did not consent to go voluntarily.—I told him that I did not conceive those Gentlemen had any Right to send me away; that I had long been persecuted, and that they had long threatened it, but that I never thought they would have dared to execute their Threats.—I lent to my Friends, and in about Ten Minutes there were Twenty or Thirty Gentlemen assembled.

I petitioned the Captain for a little Time to throw my Books and my Wife's Cloaths into a Couple of Chests, and he was kind enough to grant me Two Hours, but then said he could stay no longer with Safety.—I went into my Wife's Bedchamber to see if he had sent her Things away, when the Captain, and one of his *Sepeys*, came into the Bedchamber and took me out by the Shoulders; they marched me through the Streets to a Boat that was prepared for me, in which they conducted me on board a Sloop prepared for the Purpose.—My Wife followed me afterwards.—In that Sloop we were

conducted down the River, and kept Seven Days and Nights under Confinement in the Sloop, with the *Sepeys* at the Cabin Door.—When the Ship *Valentine* was under Way, we were taken out of that Sloop, to Sea, and forcibly put on board the *Valentine*, and brought to England.

Q. When the First Sentence of Banishment was pronounced against you, had you any Intimation of your Crime, or was you called before the Governor and Council that pronounced it, to make any Defence?

A. I had no Intimation whatever, nor was ever called before them.

Q. Do you remember when you received the First Sentence from the Secretary of the Governor and Select Committee?

A. I think it was in April 1767.

Q. Did you ever know for what Reason you was thus sent Home?

A. I never knew more than what was written in the Paper delivered me as my Sentence, after I was banished in April 1767.

The said Paper was then ordered to be produced, and was read as follows; viz.

An Extract from the Proceedings of the Select Committee, dated the 18 April 1767.

"That Mr. *William Bolts* appears, from many Circumstances, to be deeply concerned in the Conspiracy to ruin *Nobokiffen's* Character, and attempt his Life; in which Opinion the Committee are confirmed, by his violent and declared Relentment to *Nobokiffen*, by the Share he took in stirring up, and instigating a Prosecution against him in the Zemindary Court, upon an imaginary and false Accusation; and particularly from his taking, at this Juncture, into his Service, *Rammant*, a Man who stands publicly convicted of Perjury, with a View of forging and publishing farther Aspersions upon *Nobokiffen's* Character.

"That Mr. *Bolts* having, upon this and many other Occasions, endeavoured to draw an Odium upon the Administration, and to promote Faction and Discontent in the Settlement, has rendered himself unworthy of any farther Indulgence from the Committee, and of the Company's Protection.

"That therefore he be directed to quit Bengal, and proceed to *Madras* by the First Ship that shall sail for that Presidency, in the Month of July next, in order to take his Passage from thence to Europe in September.

"A true Extract.

(Signed)

"C. W. Boughton,  
 "Assistant Secy. Sel. Committee."

Q. Did you ever hear of any other Reasons except what are specified in the above Paper?

A. I never heard of any, excepting that I had wrote a Letter to Mr. *Genil*, acquainting him with the Parliamentary Proceedings, which has been read—common, general News.

Q. Did you never hear that one Reason of your being sent away, was, your evading signing the new Covenants, relative to receiving of Presents?

A. I never heard of any such Reason.

Q. Did you sign the new Covenants?

A. I did not sign them myself, but I did by my Deputy, which was equally as valid, and which I always acknowledged to be so.

Q. Why did you not sign them yourself?

A. Because it was my Pleasure.

Q. Did you ever give any other Reason for not signing yourself?

A. I don't remember I ever did.

Q. Who was the Deputy that signed them for you?

A. My own Book-keeper, in my Name, and for me; he was a Native of the Country.

Q. Did



Q. Did you not give as a Reason for not signing the Covenants, that you had taken an Oath you never would?

A. If I have, it will appear upon the public Records.—I believe I did.

Q. Did you enter into any new Contracts or Concerns in Trade after you had resigned the Service?

A. I did, because I had a Right to do it.

Q. Do you know any Instance of any other Person, who had resigned the Service of the Company, forced out of the Country in the Manner you was?

A. I know of none in the civil Service of the Company, but I know of several Gentlemen, who had been in the Military Service, being seized and ordered for England; but I know of none that were seized so suddenly, and with so much Violence, as I was.

Q. Is it not usual for Civil Servants to go when they receive Notice?

A. I never knew of any such Custom among any of the Civil Servants, though I have known many Instances of such arbitrary Orders.

Q. Have those Orders been obeyed?

A. Sometimes they have, and sometimes not.

Q. What is done with the Civil Servants when they do not obey?

A. I have not known of any Civil Servants sent away by Force.—Sometimes their residing was dispensed with; but I suppose they would have been sent away if they had not gone voluntarily.

Q. Do you know of any Civil Servants going away when they were ordered?

A. Yes.

Q. When did that Custom begin of ordering People to be seized and sent Home by Force?

A. I never knew of any Instance before 1765 or 1766.

Q. Did you ever know of any Civil Servants refusing to go when the Orders were not dispensed with?

A. I don't remember any of the Civil Servants of the Company refusing to go; but I know of several British Subjects being forced, upon such Orders, to seek that Protection in the foreign Settlements that they could not enjoy in their own.

Q. Did you ever know of any British Subjects, covenanted or not covenanted, who continued to reside in Calcutta after ordered to quit, and that Order not dispensed with?

A. None in my Time; but have heard of others in former Times.

Q. What Instances have you heard of in former Times?

A. There was a Gentleman named Cooke, and several others, whose Names I don't recollect.—Mr. Cooke was in the Company's Civil Service at Dacca, and, as I heard, dismissed for Embezzlement, and ordered Home by the Directors, but refused to go, and remained in the Country;—the Governor and Council, at that Period, did not think themselves safe to execute such Orders.

Q. Were there not Orders repeatedly issued for Two Years, for you to go away before you was forced away?

A. There were; but I always considered them as illegal, and in my Case, as particularly void in Law, because I was an Alderman of the Mayor's Court.

Q. Was you an Alderman of the Mayor's Court at the Time the First Order for your Departure was issued?

A. I was.

Q. Did you ever assign that as a Reason to the Governor and Council for not going?

A. I never entered upon the Legality of the Orders with the Governor and Council—I don't remember I assigned that as a Reason.

Q. How long was it after you received your Sentence of Banishment, that you heard the Objection against you for not signing the Covenants?

A. The Sentence of Banishment was dated in April 1767; and I first heard of the other Charge, concerning the Covenants, in September 1768.

Q. When this Charge respecting the Covenants was stated against you, did you offer to find Security to any Person who should allege you was not equally bound by the Deed of your Clerk done by your Order, as if done by yourself, or to the Company, to stand any Prosecution for Receipt of Presents while you was in the Company's Service?

A. I did.

Q. Was it ever alleged by any Person, that you had received any Presents when in the Company's Service, after the Covenants were ordered to be signed?

A. It never was alleged against me, either when in or out of the Service.

Q. How long had you resigned the Service before September 1768?

A. About Two Years; and I had ordered my Clerk to sign the Covenants Three Years preceding that Date.

Q. Had or had not the Governor and Council directed you to be dismissed from the Mayor's Court before such Charge of not signing the Covenants was suggested?

A. They had ordered me to be dismissed.

Q. What was the Answer of the Clerk in Consequence of that Order?

A. That there was no legal Vacancy in the Court.

Q. How long is it customary in the East Indies to allow Civil Servants resigning the Privilege of the Company's Duffuck?

A. Twelve Months.

Q. If most of the Servants, who went away upon being ordered, would not have naturally returned to their own Country without such Orders?

A. I believe they would all have returned.

Q. Who were the Agents you employed in those Concerns you entered into after your Resignation?

A. I had above 150, and amongst others the Two Armenians who have given Evidence; but these were only employed in collecting outstanding Debts, and disposing of Goods and Contracts which were on Hand before my Resignation.

Q. What Settlements do you mean that several British Subjects went to, to get that Protection they were refused in their own?

A. The French, Dutch, Portuguese, and Danes—they employed themselves in Trade.

Q. What are their Names?

A. One named Duffield, another Byrn, another Bursten; and several others whose Names I cannot recollect.

Q. Give an Account of the Nature of Purwannahs, when they first took Place; and what Effects they are supposed to produce?

A. Purwannahs of the Nature of that which was produced to the Committee, were never thought of till 1766. I, as well as all the native Merchants I ever conversed with upon it, considered it as a scandalous Regulation to monopolize Trade, as may be understood from the very Tenor of it, as it was explained to the Committee.

Q. Did it exempt from Duties?

A. I never understood that it did.

Q. What then was the Effect of it?

A. The Select Committee had made an Order in February 1766, which was renewed in October following, that none should buy or sell without these Purwannahs; and this Purwannah was to give the Committee's Sanction for trading.

Q. What was the greatest Amount of Duties payable on the Spot, upon Goods in Bulwansing's Country?

A. I know of no Duties but those which are paid upon the Transportation of Goods from one Place to another, either by Land or Water, in Bulwansing's Country, except on Piece Goods, upon which a Duty of 1/2 called

called Cutwally is collected on the Spot; and this Cutwally is no more than the Charge of a Tacka (that is about the 25th Part of a Rupee) which the Cutwal collects for fixing his Seal to the Corner of the Piece; all other Duties are paid upon the Transportation, for which a Duffuck is requisite.

Your Committee then proceeded to read the following Extracts from the Proceedings of the Select Committee at Bengal; held under Dates the 22d and 31 October 1766; viz.

"Resolved,

"That in future the Trade of all *Europeans* white-  
"ver be confined to the Articles specified in the annex-  
"ed List, and considered as Returns to, or Exports  
"from, the Presidency and Factories; and that no  
"Trade shall henceforward be carried on from one Au-  
"rung to another, or from one Part of the interior  
"Country to another, in any of the Articles contained  
"in this List, or in any other Articles whatsoever, on  
"Pain of Confiscation of the Goods, to be appropriated  
"at the Pleasure of this Committee, and Forfeiture of  
"the Company's Service, or of free Merchants Inden-  
"tures, or Licence of the Governor and Council; ac-  
"cording as the Trespasses shall be committed by Persons  
"in or out of the Company's Service.

"And it being now the Intention of this Committee  
"to fulfil, in the most effectual Manner, the honourable  
"Company's Instructions respecting the Inland Trade,  
"and to remove all Cause of Disturbance and Oppres-  
"sion committed in the interior Country, under Sanc-  
"tion of the *English* Name,

"Resolved, That in future all Gomahtahs, whether  
"employed on Account of the Company, or of Individ-  
"uals, shall strictly refrain from interfering in any Mat-  
"ters that may tend to interrupt the Collections, or dis-  
"turb the Business of the Government.

"That they shall scrupulously avoid taking Cogni-  
"zance of any Disputes or Differences they may have  
"with the Country People, or assuming to themselves  
"any Degree of judicial Authority.

"That in all such Points of Difference and Dispute,  
"whether with respect to Trade, or otherwise, they shall  
"appeal first to the nearest Officer of the Government;  
"and in case of Delay or Refusal of Redress from him,  
"they shall then lay their Complaints before *Mahomed*  
*Reza Khawun*, or the Resident at the Durbar, or the  
"Council, or Select Committee.

"That whoever shall be found deviating from the  
"evident Meaning and Intent of this Resolution (a Copy  
"of which will be sent to the Resident at the Durbar  
"and to *Mahomed Reza Khawun*) shall immediately for-  
"feit their Employments, and the Company's Pro-  
"tection, and likewise be subject to such further Punish-  
"ment as the Council or Committee may think proper  
"to inflict."

The Committee then read a Licence from the Rajah  
*Bulwantfing*, which was produced by Mr. *Cejamaul*; and  
proved by *Gonybandajis*; viz.

SEAL

Maharaja  
Bulwantfing  
Bahadur.

"Settlement of the Farm of Salt Petre of the Pro-  
"vince of *Gkaziore*, in the Name of the favourable  
"Friend *Gregore*; that is, the Farm of the Salt Petre of  
"the said Province, for the Sum of 1201 Rupees for the

"Year 1174 fully according to the Obligation of the  
"before-mentioned, having settled, and being given  
"in his Charge, it is necessary that the mentioned Sum,  
"according to the established Payments of the *Rabuliat*,  
"he shall pay into the Treasury, and with easy Mind he  
"may employ himself in the Business of the said Salt  
"Petre Farm, please God there shall be no Difference  
"in this Agreement:

"1201 Rupees for the Year 1174 fully.

"Written on the 1st *Shabaan* 1174 fully.

"Entered in the *Seab* Account Book of the Dewan,  
"the 1st *Shabaan* fully 1174.

"Entered in the *Dewan* Duffer the 1st *Shabaan*,  
"1174 fully."

Likewise a Licence from the Cutwal, or Collector of  
*Bulwantfing's* Duties, produced by Mr. *Cejamaul*, of  
the Farm of the Opium in *Gkaziore*, for the Years  
1766, 1767, and 1768; proved by *Gonybandajis*; viz.

"Agreement for the Farms of the Opium of the  
"*Sircar* *Gkaziore*; that is, since the Farm of the Opi-  
"um of the above-said *Sircar*, for the Sum of Six thou-  
"sand and Three *Banaras* Rupees, for the Whole of  
"Three Years, from the Beginning of the Year 1174  
"fully to the End of 1176 fully, according to the  
"Obligation of the favourable Friend *Cogee Gregore*,  
"having settled and being given, it is necessary that the  
"mentioned Sum, according to the Payments, Year by  
"Year, he shall pay, and with easy Mind apply to the  
"Business of the Farm of Opium, please God there  
"shall be no Difference, and other Merchants shall not  
"buy it.

SEAL

Mahomed Zummer.

"Dated the 12th of the Month *Shabaan*, the  
"Year 1174 fully."

General *Richard Smith* being then called, the follow-  
ing Questions were asked him; viz.

Q. What do you know of the Imprisonment of these  
Three *Armenians*, what the Cause of it, and by what  
Authority they were confined?

A. I have a Cause depending with the Two *Armenians*,  
and yet I am willing to give the best Account I can to  
this Committee.

Q. Do you know of any General Orders or Regula-  
tions for restricting the Trade of the *English* and their  
Agents, in the Provinces belonging to the King and  
*Sujab Dowlab*?

A. I do.

Q. Did you at any Time hear any Complaints made  
of the Conduct of such Agents by the King, *Sujab*  
*Dowlab*, *Bulwantfing*, or others, and what were such  
Complaints?

A. I have; and they appear in my Letter to the Se-  
lect Committee of the 3d *January* 1768.

The following Extract from the said Letter was  
then read; viz.

"The Nabob represented to me the great Inconve-  
"niences which arise from the Gomahtahs and Depend-  
"ants of *English* Gentlemen residing in his Dominions,  
"particularly at *Garrackpoor*, *Mirzapoor*, and in the  
"Zemindary of *Benaris* and *Gazapoor*; that he was ex-  
"tremely tender in exerting his Authority over any of  
"those who even assumed the *English* Name, notwith-  
"standing that their People were guilty of many Impos-  
"sitions and Extortions on his Subjects, as well as de-  
"frauding

"fringing him of his Duties; now, as he had received repeated Assurances from the Presidency that no private Trade should be carried on in his Dominions, so he requested that I would not only exert my Power to free his Country from the *Armenians* and Natives of *Bengal* in the Service of Individuals, but that I would also represent the same to you, so that effectual Means might be taken for their Expulsion: Sensible of the Justice of this Representation, I did not hesitate to assure him, that nothing was further from the Design or Approbation of the *English* Sardars; that I had heard our President made it a Point, neither to grant Duftucks nor Purwannahs into his Excellency's Dominions;—that no Consideration whatsoever could induce the *English* Chiefs to suffer the Advantages or Emoluments of Individuals to be a Means of giving him the most distant Cause of Uneasiness or Concern—I assured him of my ready Concurrence in every Measure to suppress this growing Evil, and would represent it in the strongest Manner to the Committee, that effectual Measures might be taken to remove it—desired he would apprehend all those who were guilty of any Impositions on our Name, which so far from giving Umbrage to the *English* Sardars, would be esteemed a Favour conferred on us. I further added, that, to convince his Excellency how desirous I was to strike at the Root of this Evil, on my Return to *Alababad*, it should be my Care that the *Purwannah*, he himself had granted to *Ismael Beg* (one of his own Subjects, for the exclusive Privilege of making Salt Petre upon Account of *English* Gentlemen, and upon Condition that he furnished the Nabob with whatever Quantity he wanted at Prime Cost) should be returned, that he might be convinced no private Advantages whatsoever could weigh with an *Englishman*, which might in the remotest Degree affect the Public. The Nabob said, in Answer, that he esteemed this as a fresh Instance of Attention and Regard.

"As I have been informed of these Circumstances, not only from the Nabob, but as *Rajah Bulwanfing* has also represented the late Frequency of *English* Duftucks and *English* *Purwannahs*, it is but too apparent, notwithstanding the Resolutions at the Presidency, that there is an Abuse in this Matter; I do therefore most earnestly recommend to the Committee, that they will enter upon the most vigorous Measures for entirely abolishing a System so fraught with pernicious Consequences, and which very System had so lately proved almost fatal to the Company's Welfare in *Bengal*. I have the Honour to subscribe myself, with great Respect,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient,

"humble Servant,

"Head Quarters, near  
"Kierabad, the 3d January 1768. "Richard Smith."

Q. Do you know whether such Agents were made acquainted with such Orders for restraining Trade, and did they pay Obedience thereto?

A. There was a general Publication of those Orders, I believe some Time in 1768, long after my Letter, and which will appear upon the Company's Books.—I think the Publication was after my Return to the Board at *Calcutta* in April.

Q. Did you know of *Cojamaul*, an *Armenian*, or other *Armenians*, Agents for Mr. *Bolis*, residing in those Districts?

A. It was impossible for me to know any Gomastahs—I don't recollect I knew him particularly—there were 500 Gomastahs.

Q. Did this Measure of restrictive Orders proceed principally from the Governor and Council on Complaint of the Princes?

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A. I may say it originated from the Letter above mentioned.

Q. When *Sujab Dowlab* desired you to inform the Governor and Council of those Irregularities, what Answer did the Governor give?

General Smith then read the following Extract of a Letter which he received from Mr. *Vereff*; viz.

"Fort William, 31st January 1768.

"SIR,

"I have received your Letters of the 10th and 20th December, with Returns of the Army for the Month of November, and of the 6th and 9th Instant, with the Draughts of Three Surveys made in the Subah of *Oud*; as soon as the other Two you mentioned are copied, I shall be obliged to you for them.

"It is with some Astonishment, as well as Concern, that I observe the Representations you have been pleased to make to the Committee, in your Letter to them of the 3d Instant, respecting the private Trade carried on by *English* Gomastahs in the Circars of *Gauzypur* and *Mizzapur*, and other Parts of the Nabob *Sujab al Dowlab's* Dominions; I therefore have taken this Method to acquaint you with my Sentiments thereon; for, notwithstanding I am at all Times determined to preserve and support my Prerogative in its due Extent, and to endeavour at conducting all Affairs of a Public Nature to the best of my Abilities, upon what I esteem the most steady, uniform, and solid Plan, yet no Difference of Opinion, in those Points, shall have any Sway with me, when Matters of private Concern are under my Consideration.

"The Orders of the Company, and the Resolutions of the Committee, are positive, that no private Trade shall be carried on without these Provinces; and the Penalty to those who shall disobey them, no less than Dismissal from the Service; yet it appears by your Letter, that they are disobeyed, and that too in such a Manner, as to oblige the Nabob *Sujab al Dowlab* to complain to you of the Oppressions and Extortions of *English* Gomastahs; the Truth of which was confirmed by *Bulwanfing*.

"You have expressed your Apprehensions of Fatality to the Company's Possessions, unless the most vigorous Measures be pursued by the Committee, to annihilate these Complaints, so fraught with pernicious Consequences; and informed the Committee of your having assured *Shuja al Dowlab* how desirous you are to strike at the Root of this Evil, and that it should be your Care that the *Purwannah* for an exclusive Privilege to make Salt Petre on Account of the *English*, granted to *Ismael Beg*, should be returned.

"Called upon, as the Committee are, in this Public Manner, were they to content themselves with only recording your Letter upon the Face of their Proceedings, the Court of Directors might very possibly conceive an Idea of your attentive and faithful Services at their Expense, or perhaps see Cause to suspect their Disinterestedness and Integrity; if, on the contrary, they second your Remonstrance with that Degree of Vigour you tell them it should, by resolving to detect and punish every Aggressor, may not your Name happen to stand recorded at the Head of the List?—You have particularized *Ismael Beg*; should they enquire by whom he has been employed, will it not be found that he was employed by you?—Employed, not only in carrying on a Trade prohibited by the Company, but even to raise that Trade into a Monopoly throughout the greatest Part of the Dominions of our Friend and Ally.

"You say, in your Public Letter, you have heard I made it a Point neither to grant Duftucks nor *Purwannahs* into *Shuja al Dowlab's* Dominions; I imagined you had known it was a Point established with

4 E

"me,

"me, and invariably adhered to—however, *Sujab al Dowlah* having repeatedly written to me on this Subject, on reading your Letter I had my Answers recorded on the Committee Proceedings, as well as my Assurance of never having granted either Duffuck or Purwannah beyond the Provinces since my coming to the Government, except for the Baggage of Officers going to Camp.

"However hardly you may have conceived of my Conduct towards you on any Public Account, it is very far from me to wish you an Injury, and on the present Occasion I am sorry you have acted in so unguarded a Manner. If any *English* Gentlemen have been led to extend their Trade beyond the Provinces, and their Gomastahs been culpable in their Conduct, a Representation thereof to me should immediately have removed every Cause of Complaint, and a private Reprehension corrected the Indiscretion of the Offenders; but your Accusation being Public and General, those who have transgressed, must abide by the Consequences.

"Being sensible that the Emoluments of your Office are inadequate to your Station, you may remember I recommended your entering into Trade, which you might engage some of your Friends to manage for you; how far you have declared your Concern herein I know not, but it has been Matter of general Complaint, that the Attention of most of the Officers of the Army has, of late, been taken up with Commercial Matters more than is consistent with their Duty; and when reprehended upon this Head, they have not scrupled to quote the Example of the Commanding Officer. As the very Being of the Company, in the present Posture of Affairs, depends in great Measure upon the State of our Army, I wish to see a Stop put to a Practice which may be productive, if suffered to go on, of such dangerous Consequences. I would very gladly promote the Interest of the Army, by all proper and reasonable Means, but not at the Expence of the Service.

"It is probable you may suppose I have expressed myself with a Degree of Freedom in some Parts of this Letter; but as it is obvious that my Intentions are altogether friendly, I hope you will do me the Justice to believe me, with great Regard,  
(Signed)

"H. Verelst."

Read also the following Extracts from a Letter written by Colonel Richard Smith, in Answer to the President Mr. Verelst, as produced by the Colonel, dated Head Quarters, at Meer Abjell's Gardens near Patna, the 8 February 1768; viz.

"SIR,

"I have this Day received your Letter of the 31st ult. The Freedom with which you have expressed your Sentiments, may be very readily admitted, since you profess your Intentions to be altogether friendly; I hope you will, in my Turn, indulge me with the same Liberty, since I shall deliver my Thoughts with an equal Degree of Sincerity.

"Marvel not, Sir, at my Representations to the Select Committee concerning the Prosecution of private Trade in *Sujab Dowlah's* Dominions; be assured it is high Time to remedy these Grievances—such Complaints of Oppression have been made to me as were insufferable; had I been treated by you in a Manner due to my Rank and Character, you should have been particularly advised of this and every other material Circumstance that came to my Knowledge; but circumstanced as I have been, it became necessary for me to confine my Correspondence to the Board, and this will account for my not writing you a private Letter on this Subject.

"I am concerned you should express even a Suppo-

sition, 'That should the Committee content themselves with only recording my Letter on the Face of their Proceedings, the Court of Directors may possibly conceive an Idea of my attentive and faithful Services, at the Expence of the Committee, or from my Representations see Cause to suspect their Disinterestedness and Integrity.'

"I could with Mr. Verelst, and all Mankind, to believe, that I am about aiming at Applause at the Expence of other Men; for I think my own uniform Conduct will secure to me that Share of Approbation it may hereafter appear to have deserved. I wrote to the Committee so strenuously, from a firm Hope that they would enter into such effectual Measures, as to eradicate this growing Evil, and hereafter you will be convinced I have not painted this Grievance in stronger Colours than the Occasion required.

"You are pleased to write me, 'It has been Matter of general Complaint, that the Attention of most of the Officers of the Army has, of late, been taken up with commercial Matters more than is consistent with their Duty, and when reprehended on this Head, they have not scrupled to quote the Example of the Commanding Officer.' I could wish to be informed from whence these general Complaints have been made: A general Accusation will fall of itself, when unsupported by Proofs; the Conduct of the Officers of that Part of the Army, which has been under my immediate Inspection, does not deserve so severe a Reflection, and the excellent State of those Troops is the best Proof my Assertion; and from the Review which I have lately made of my Regiment, and the few *Sepoys* remaining here of the Second Brigade, it clearly appears to me that there has been no Want of Diligence in the Commanding Officer, nor of Attention in those of an inferior Station. As to the Officers on the *Purgunah* Establishment, I know not how they conduct themselves; they appear to have no military Superior whatsoever. That the very Being of the Company depends in great Measure upon the State of the Army, is most certain; my Sentiments on the present State of it will hereafter appear; in the mean Time, if you will be pleased to point out those who have neglected their Duty, from an Attention to commercial Affairs, or even those who have been any wife concerned in a mercantile System, I will assure you of my best Endeavours to put a Stop to this Practice, which I by no Means approve.

"How far, and by what Inducements, I engaged in Commerce I will now relate.—You must remember when I was sworn a Member of the Council, the Duffuck Oath was tendered to me; the whole Board must remember I then declined taking that Oath, because I never had, nor never intended to enter into any commercial Schemes, as I considered Commerce to be incompatible with my Profession; doubtless you must also remember, that soon after this, you yourself observed to me (and I will suppose with a very friendly Intention) that you thought I was wrong in giving up the greatest, and indeed only, Advantage from my new Appointment: I observed that I did not wish to see any Commerce whatsoever carried on by the Officers of the Army, and although I was entitled to the Privilege of a Duffuck, yet I did not chuse to set the Example; you replied, that General Carnac had been concerned in Trade, which was carried on by yourself (I think you mentioned, but am not certain) or others on his Account, and that you advised me to be concerned with Mr. Russell, who would transact these Affairs for me.

"I thanked you for your Advice, and said I would consider of it; I reflected, that my Predecessor had received large Emoluments from his Station, perhaps £. 30,000 for Two Years, that the Company's Orders had taken away the only Emolument which I could expect

"expect

" expect to receive in their Service, and thereby reduced  
 " all my Appointments to the scanty Pittance of £. 700  
 " per Annum, besides defraying my Field Expenses;  
 " that neither the Company at Home, nor Lord Clive  
 " Abroad, had made the least Provision for the Com-  
 " mander in Chief of the Forces. Thus situated, I  
 " thought I might endeavour, with some Degree of  
 " Propriety, to encrease my Capital by a commercial  
 " System, carried on by a Friend, who was a Member of  
 " the Board, and who was so obliging as to take that  
 " Trouble for me: Of this you was informed, and  
 " soon after I took the Duftuck Oath; here then is  
 " explained the Causes and Motives which induced me  
 " to engage in Commerce, and now you are to be in-  
 " formed how far I have engaged in it.—Our first Essay  
 " was in the Purchase of your Share of the Cargoes of  
 " Cotton from Surat, at an Advance of Fifty thousand  
 " Rupees upon the Prime Cost, by which Purchase you  
 " will do me the Justice to say I have not gained any  
 " Advantage. My Second Adventure was of sundry  
 " Articles exported by the Company, and bought at  
 " their Sales, for which your Duftuck was granted to  
 " the Limits of the Provinces; these Articles were sold  
 " many Months since, but not before I discovered that  
 " this commercial System, if pursued, would ingross too  
 " much of my Time from more important Occupations;  
 " I therefore dropped all Thoughts of prosecuting the  
 " Plan; and, as I had several Gentlemen of my Family  
 " who had merited well, both from the Public and from  
 " me, Gentlemen whom I wished to serve, but wanted  
 " any other Means of doing it, amongst them I divided  
 " the Profits of this Adventure, as I purpose doing by  
 " whatever Emolument may arise from the Advance of  
 " 25,000 Rupees made on my Account, at the Aurungs  
 " in Bengal.

" It only remains for me to treat of my Third and  
 " last Attempt, the Salt Petre Concern.—You must re-  
 " member that this Article of Commerce was mentioned  
 " to you, both by Mr. Russell and me, when I was at  
 " Calcutta; you so far approved the Scheme, that at the  
 " Desire of Mr. Russell you wrote a Letter to *Sujab*  
 " *Dowlab*, to request he would grant that Gentleman's  
 " Gomastah the exclusive Privilege of purchasing Salt  
 " Petre in his Dominions.—This Letter Mr. Russell  
 " inclosed to me; I received it at *Monybyr*, when on  
 " my Journey to *Allahabad*; and when the Nabob paid  
 " me a Visit on my Arrival there, I delivered to him  
 " your Letter, and seconded your Request; at that  
 " Time nothing was settled, but the Nabob desired  
 " *Ismael Beg* to attend him to *Fyzabad*, for the Ad-  
 " justment of this Matter. Some Time after a Pur-  
 " wannah was granted to him, for an exclusive Privi-  
 " lege of making Salt Petre throughout the Nabob's  
 " Dominions, upon Condition that he supplied the  
 " Nabob with whatever Quantity he required at Prime  
 " Cost; and as *Ismael Beg* was recommended to this  
 " Employment by me, you may suppose that Mr.  
 " Russell and myself would have had the Refusal of  
 " whatever Quantity was made, above that which the  
 " Nabob should require for his own Use, and this to be  
 " delivered at the *Carnamajab*.

" In Consequence of this Purwannah, *Ismael Beg*  
 " began to make his Engagements for the manufactur-  
 " ing of Salt Petre after the Rains should have subsided,  
 " but in the Interim arose those Suspicions of the Du-  
 " plicity of *Sujab Dowlab*'s Conduct: The bare Possi-  
 " bility of his meditating Hostilities gave me the Alarm;  
 " for being convinced how faithfully we had fulfilled  
 " our Engagements to him, and reflecting, that as he  
 " could have no just Ground to allege for a Rupture  
 " with us, he must therefore seek a Pretext to give some  
 " Colouring to his own Conduct, and it was not im-  
 " possible but that such a Man might repent to the  
 " World, this Purwannah, which was his own free  
 " Grant, to have been obtained from him by improper  
 " Solicitation; no sooner did this Suggestion strike me,

" but I desired *Ismael Beg* to suspend the Commence-  
 " ment of his Manufacture; and when I visited the  
 " Nabob, you already know that a final Stop was put  
 " to this Affair. I have only to add, that I do not  
 " know of any Salt Petre having been made under the  
 " Sanction of this Purwannah, and I can affirm, that  
 " not a single Particle has been received.—Here, Sir,  
 " is the History of *Ismael Beg*, and the Salt Petre  
 " Purwannah.

" And now, Sir, I cannot avoid testifying my ex-  
 " treme Surprise at your Query.—' If, on the contrary,  
 " they second your Remonstrance with that Degree of  
 " Vigour you tell them it should, by resolving to detect  
 " and punish every Aggressor, may not your Name  
 " happen to stand recorded at the Head of the List?'  
 " Upon what Part of my Conduct, Sir, can you found  
 " such a Question? Wherein have I acted differently  
 " from you? Could I conceive the purchasing of Salt  
 " Petre in *Sujab Dowlab*'s Dominions to be funda-  
 " mentally wrong, when you yourself wrote to *Sujab*  
 " *Dowlab*, in Favour of Mr. Russell's Gomastah? Could  
 " I conceive it to be a prohibited Commerce, when you  
 " yourself encouraged it? Could I imagine it con-  
 " trary to the Regulation of the Select Committee,  
 " when you, who presided in that Committee, made  
 " use of your Influence to introduce it.

" I little expected that you, Sir, would have been the  
 " Person to suggest that *Ismael Beg* was employed to  
 " raise the Salt Petre Trade into a Monopoly through-  
 " out the greatest Part of the Nabob's Dominions; had  
 " *Ismael Beg*, in Consequence of the Nabob's Grant,  
 " been the only Manufacturer of Salt Petre in his  
 " Territories, he would have enjoyed that Privilege,  
 " by the Permission of him, who alone had the Right  
 " to grant it.

" That you never granted Duftucks into the Nabob's  
 " Dominions, I most sincerely believe, but I cannot  
 " conceive how it could remain unknown to you that  
 " they were granted by others; for I think there is an  
 " express Order of the Committee, that all Duftucks or  
 " Purwannahs shall be registered, and Monthly Returns  
 " made from the several Factories to the Custom House  
 " at Calcutta; and the smallest Reference to those Re-  
 " cords would have shewn you, that Duftucks had been  
 " frequently granted from *Patna* and *Munseerabad*, for  
 " every Species of Merchandize, into the Nabob *Sujab*  
 " *Dowlab*'s Country.

" Sensible that my Representations to the Board, of  
 " the 3d ultimo, was made upon the most mature De-  
 " liberation, and confident that no one Action of mine  
 " stands in need of Concealment, however friendly may  
 " be your Expressions of Concern, upon a Supposition  
 " that I have acted in an unguarded Manner, I cannot  
 " admit of their Propriety, since I see no Cause for  
 " their Application. And in regard to your Declara-  
 " tion, 'that no Difference of Opinion in Public Affairs  
 " should have any Sway with you when Matters of a  
 " private Concern are under your Consideration,' I can  
 " only say, that it is a worthy Sentiment, but it cannot  
 " have the smallest Reference to me, as it is impossible  
 " for you, as Governor of this Settlement, with Propriety,  
 " to countenance, or for me, as Commander in  
 " Chief, with Consistency, to be connected in, any  
 " Transaction which requires Privacy on my Part, or  
 " Connivance on yours.

" How far I have ever engaged in Mercantile Affairs  
 " you have been fully informed; and as I am above  
 " palliating an Error in Judgment, I will frankly con-  
 " fess to you that it is the only Part of my Conduct  
 " which I cannot approve upon Reflection, not that  
 " I had any Cause whatsoever to judge this Transaction  
 " deserving of Censure in itself, but for an Example it  
 " displays to others, who might not reflect, that my  
 " being a Member of the Council admitted me to Pri-  
 " vileges no other Military Man could enjoy.—It is  
 " now Sixteen Years since I bore a Military Commission  
 " in

" in this Service; And where is the Man who can say  
 " I ever had a commercial Concern, until it was sug-  
 " gested to me by you? I was, however, soon con-  
 " vinced of my Error, and as soon I renounced all  
 " Thoughts of increasing my Fortune on Mercantile  
 " Principles; and, Sir, I dare appeal to you, and to  
 " the whole World, whether I have manifested the least  
 " Avidity for Wealth; but, on the contrary, the Oppor-  
 " tunities I have had of acquiring a very large Fortune  
 " are notoriously known: It is equally known, that I  
 " have not availed myself in the smallest Degree of those  
 " Opportunities, but have preferred Mediocrity and an  
 " unblemished Reputation.

" The Time is now approaching when you will be  
 " fully informed what Opinion I have conceived of  
 " your Conduct towards me—My Letter of Yesterday's  
 " Date to the Select Committee, requested their Per-  
 " mission for me to return to the Presidency, that I  
 " might prepare for my Embarkation to Europe.—  
 " When cool Reflection shall banish hasty Prejudice,  
 " when Jealousies and Suspensions can no longer be en-  
 " tertained, then perhaps it may appear that you have  
 " judged of me and my Actions through a false  
 " Medium, and conducted yourself accordingly. How  
 " much I endeavoured to obtain your Confidence I will  
 " freely acknowledge, and it was because I could foresee  
 " that the Welfare of the Company was very nearly in-  
 " terested in a good Understanding between the Gover-  
 " nor and Commander in Chief; and the Events of the  
 " last Year have justified my Opinion. How well you  
 " have adhered to the Declarations you made to me in  
 " Person, will appear hereafter; in the mean Time I  
 " have an Honour to profess myself, with great Re-  
 " spect,

(Signed) " R<sup>d</sup> Smith."

Q. Did *Sujab Dowlab* issue the Orders for the Re-  
 moval of the *Armenian* Gomastahs in general from his  
 Dominions?

A. The Orders were issued by the Select Committee;  
 but some Months prior to those Orders *Sujab Dowlab*  
 had applied for a Guard to take up some People at *Ba-  
 naras*, as appears by a Letter from Captain *Harper* of the  
 6th January 1768; as follows:

" To Col. *Richard Smith*, Commander in Chief of  
 " the Forces.

" S I R,  
 " The Nabob *Sujab Dowlab* has applied to me for a  
 " Guard to apprehend some People at *Banaras*, who,  
 " under Pretence of being Servants to *English* Gentle-  
 " men, are committing all Manner of Disturbances. I  
 " have not complied with his Excellency's Request, and  
 " wait your Orders to know whether I may fend the  
 " Guard he desires, or not. I have the Honour to be,  
 " with great Respect,

" S I R,  
 " Your most obedient,  
 " Camp near *Fyzabad*, " Humble Servant,  
 " the 6 January 1768." (Signed)  
 " *Gabriel Harper*."

Q. Who were those Gentlemen?  
 A. There was so many I cannot particularize them.  
 Q. Did *Sujab Dowlab* make any Representation to  
 you, against the Gomastahs of the *English*, preceding  
 January 1768?

A. I think that is the first Representation that *Sujab  
 Dowlab* made to me in Person, but not the first that  
*Bulwantfing* made.

Q. What was the Date of *Bulwantfing's* first Repre-  
 sentation to you?

A. I cannot charge my Memory with the exact  
 Date—they were made in Person, and by his Vakeels,  
 but not in Writing.

Q. Did you acquaint the Governor and Council with  
 those Representations of *Bulwantfing*?

A. I endeavoured to remedy them myself as Com-  
 mander in Chief of that Province.—I do not recollect  
 any Representation to the Council prior to the 3d of  
 January.

Q. Do you know of any Mal-practices committed by  
*Cogee Gregore* or *Cogee Rafael*?

A. I don't know them personally.

Q. Had you ever any Representations against them  
 by Name?

A. Many.

Q. Please to state them.

A. Representations from *Bulwantfing*, and Complaints  
 from *Sujab Dowlab*, that they carried on a forced Trade  
 in that Country without any Kind of Restraint, paying  
 no Duties, and without Obedience to the Country  
 Government.

Q. Were the Representations in Writing?

A. Not in Writing.

Q. Was *Bulwantfing's* Representation against *Rafael*  
 and *Cogee Gregore* by Name?

A. I cannot particularly recollect, but think I re-  
 member the Name of *Rafael*, but believe they were  
 comprehended in the general Complaints against the  
*Armenians*.—I knew them more by the Name of Mr.  
*Bolis's* Gomastahs than by any other Name.—Mr. *Bolis's*  
 Gomastahs were particularly specified.

Q. Do you recollect the Names of any of Mr. *Bolis's*  
 Gomastahs?

A. No.

Q. Was this Conversation with *Bulwantfing* before  
 you went up to *Ilhabad*?

A. The first Time was in 1767—there were many  
 after.

Q. Do you know by whom the *Vizieri* Rupees were  
 coined, and what was the Alloy?

A. I never had any thing to do with any Mint.

Q. In what Coin was the Mogul's Stipend paid?

A. I will answer that when the Matter comes before  
 the Committee.

Q. Did you ever receive a Letter from Mr. *Maddi-  
 son*, Resident at the Durbar, particularly naming those  
*Armenians*?

A. I never had any Correspondence with him when  
 he was Resident.

Q. Did you know Mr. *Gentil*?

A. I did—he was a *Frenchman*, who received his  
 Subsistence from *Sujab Dowlab*—I apprehend he resided  
 there to acquire Intelligence of the *European* Settle-  
 ments; he was much in his Favour, but I believe held  
 no offensive Office.

Q. Do you know of a Letter from Mr. *Bolis* to Mr.  
*Gentil*, which you transmitted to the Committee of  
*Calcutta*?

A. A Copy of it was sent to me, and I thought it of  
 so extraordinary a Nature, that I looked upon it as my  
 indispensable Duty to transmit it to the Committee—  
 afterwards I obtained the Original, which I also trans-  
 mitted to the Committee.

Q. Do you know of any Renunciation of the Eighth  
 Article of the Treaty with *Sujab Dowlab*, stipulating a  
 Freedom in Trade?

A. I believe I do—I understood that the noble Lord  
*Clive* gave it up to *Sujab Dowlab*—I have it only from  
 Hearsay.

*Mercurii, 13<sup>o</sup> die Maii, 1772.*

Colonel *Burgoyne* in the Chair;

P R E S E N T,

Mr. <i>Johnston</i> ,	Sir <i>John Turner</i> ,
Mr. <i>Fidler</i> ,	Mr. <i>Vane</i> ,
Mr. <i>Stracey</i> ,	Mr. <i>Sutton</i> ,
Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,	Mr. <i>Ongley</i> ,
Sir <i>Wm. Meredith</i> ,	Mr. <i>Cornwall</i> .

Mr.

Mr. *Bolis* produced Nine Purwannahs granted him by *Sajab Dowlab*, relative to Salt Petre, which were proved by *Gonybandasi*, who said they were exactly the same in Substance, only directed to different People.

- 1st, To *Futteb Ally Khawn*,
- 2d, — *Rajah Bulwanfing*,
- 3d, — *Goleum Haffon Khawn*,
- 4th, — *Roy Deendayal*,
- 5th, — *Rajah Bowanyfing*,
- 6th, — *Noor Mahomed Beg Khawn Bahadr*,
- 7th, — *Hydarbeg Khan Bahadr*,
- 8th, — *Roy Kerpaleyal*,
- 9th, — *Ally Beg Khan Bahadr*.

The Purport of the Purwannahs was translated, and read, as follows:

"To the High in Dignity, beloved and powerful *Maer Futteb Ally Khan Bahadr*, be he protected. Upon the Arrival of this Purwannah, the Sum of 3000 Rupees, from yourself, having given to the Salt Petre Makers, and having got the Salt Petre made ready and delivered to *Gomastah*, the *Gomastah* of Mr. *Bolis*, and having taken a Receipt from him, send it to my Prefence. Next Time the said Sum, according to the Receipt, and this Purwannah shall be credited in the Account of your Farm.

"Written on the 28 of the Month *Zilkaad*, 1180th Year of the *Higrah*. (December 1767.)

(Signed)

"*Bayer*."

The Nabob's Seal.

(Signed)

"It is seen."

*Johannes Padre Rafael* being then questioned, declared—That he never was in the Territories of *Bulwanfing* as a *Gomastah*—that he had not sold any thing in the Year 1767 for Mr. *Bolis* at *Fyfabad*, where he was a Servant to *Sajab Dowlab*, and had 3600 Rupees a Year.

*Gregore Cojamaul* likewise being questioned, declared,—He never was at *Sajab Dowlab's* Court—never was above *Banaras*; and that *Banaras* is 120 Miles from *Fyfabad*.

General Smith.

Q. From your Knowledge of the Country, are you of Opinion that the general Orders for recalling the *Gomastahs* of the *English* were proper or necessary?

A. The Representation that I made to the Council upon the 3d January 1768, is very strong, and very pointed to that Purpose—I thought it absolutely necessary to recall them.

Q. Was Captain *Harper* one of those among whom you laid you distributed your Profits of Trade?

A. Captain *Harper* had served me as an Aid de Camp and Secretary for Two Years, and he was one of those to whom the Distribution was made.

The Committee then read Part of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council at *Bengal*, at a Consultation held the 3d May 1764; as follows:

The Board drew up the following general Opinion.

"Every Method has been tried for carrying on the Inland Trade upon such a Footing as to prevent Disputes between our Agents and the Country Government, or between one Agent and another; and for deciding, in a just and reasonable Manner, such as might unavoidably happen. Having experienced the Obstructions to which that Trade would be liable if the Officers of the Country Government were admitted to any Authority over the *English* Agents, it was resolved in Consultation the 5th March 1763, that the Chief of the nearest *English* Factory should finally determine all such Disputes, and as the *Rangpore*, Vol. III.

"*Dingpore*, and adjacent Districts, where a very considerable Part of this Inland Trade centers, appeared to be too far removed from any of our Factories to admit of such Enquiry being made in a satisfactory and accurate Manner; for this Reason, principally, it was agreed, that a Senior Servant should be appointed to reside at *Rangpore*, who should have Power to hear and determine all Disputes.

"No sooner is this Resolution carried into Practice, than some of the *English* Agents complain as loudly of Injuries suffered from the Authority of the *English* Resident, as they did before of the Nabob's Government.

"Shall there then be no Government, no Restraint upon those Excesses, which either Ignorance, Passion, or Self-interest, may lead an *English* Agent to commit in the Country? This is really the Case at present; and although it is very certain that some of the Gentlemen employed are of unexceptionable Character, and whose good Behaviour might be depended on, yet many there are of a contrary Disposition; but there need not many Arguments to prove, that both the good and the bad should be under some Law; yet if we examine the Case of the *English* Agents up the Country, we shall find they are under none. Our Charter does not authorize our Courts to take Cognizance of any Crimes they might commit in these Parts; and it has been laid down as a fundamental Principle, that the Country Government shall have no Power of them.

"We need not look further for the Root of that Licentiousness which has produced such innumerable Complaints from the Country Government, and the Inhabitants in those Parts where *European* Agents have been sent: It can now no longer be doubted, that many of those Complaints have been well-grounded, particularly in the Article of selling Goods by Force for more than the current Market Price: A Practice called in this Country *Barja*, or *Guchavari*.

"All the Power we can give the Chiefs of our Factories over these Agents will be very insufficient to remedy this Disorder, since we have in Reality none ourselves; and therefore, disagreeable as it is, to deprive so many of our Nation of the Benefits they now receive, by being employed as Agents in the Country, yet it seems an unavoidable Necessity, and for the Sake of the public Tranquillity and Welfare must be adopted, and the Trade carried on for the future by Black *Gomastahs*, who may be tried and punished by our Court of Zemindary, if they commit any Excesses or Acts of Injustice; and that Power delegated, as far as shall appear necessary, to the Chiefs of the Subordinate Factories.

"It will be objected by those concerned in the Inland Trade, that *Gomastahs* will be liable to be oppressed by the Country Government, who have taken, and will take, every Opportunity of restraining us from that Trade which they regard as an Innovation; this Objection we believe is very just, and we shall expect that many Difficulties will be found in the Beginning in carrying on this Trade by *Gomastahs*, but these we think may be surmounted by proper Application to the Nabob and his Officers; and, upon the Whole, are of Opinion, that all private Inconveniences must be submitted to, even the Risk of being entirely deprived of the Trade, rather than suffer the Inhabitants of the Country to be oppressed by an Abuse of the *English* Name.

"It is therefore the Opinion of the Board, and resolved, That all the *European*, *Portuguese* Natives, and *Armenian* Agents, which are now up the Country, shall have Notice given them to settle their Concerns, so as to return to *Calcutta* by the 30th November next, and that after that Time, no *European* shall be permitted to go up the Country under any Pretence what-

"foever, or any other Agents be employed in our Trade but Bengal Natives."

The Committee also read the following Paragraphs of a Letter from the Court of Directors to their President and Council in Bengal, dated the 8th February 1764; viz.

Parag. 20. "One grand Source of the Disputes, Misunderstandings, and Difficulties, which have occurred with the Country Government, appears evidently to have taken its Rise from the unwarrantable and licentious Manner of carrying on the private Trade by the Company's Servants, their Gomastahs, Agents, and others, to the Prejudice of the Soubah, both with respect to his Authority and the Revenues justly due to him; the diverting and taking from his natural Subjects the Trade in the inland Parts of the Country, to which neither we or any Persons whatsoever dependant upon us, or under our Protection, have any Manner of Right, and consequently endangering the Company's very valuable Privileges. In order therefore to remedy all these Disorders, we do hereby positively order and direct."

Parag. 21. "That from the Receipt of this Letter, a final and effectual End be forthwith put to the inland Trade in Salt, Beetle-nut, Tobacco, and in all other Articles whatsoever produced and consumed in the Country; and that all European and other Agents or Gomastahs, who have been concerned in such Trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not suffered to return or be replaced as such by any other Persons."

Parag. 22d. "That as our Phirmaund Privileges of being Duty free, are certainly confined to the Company's Export and Import Trade only, you are to have Recourse to, and keep within, the Liberty therein stipulated and given, as nearly as possibly can be done; but as by the Connivance of the Bengal Government and constant Usage, the Company's Covenant Servants have had the same Benefit as the Company, with respect to their Export and Import Trade, we are willing they should enjoy the same, and that Dufftacks be granted accordingly; but herein the most effectual Care is to be taken that no Excesses or Abuses are suffered upon any Account whatsoever, nor Dufftacks granted to any others than our Covenant Servants as aforesaid. However, notwithstanding any of our former Orders, no Writer is to have the Benefit of a Dufftack, until he has served out his full Time of Five Years in that Station; free Merchants and others are not intitled to, or to have the Benefit of, the Company's Dufftacks, but are to pay the usual Duties."

Parag. 23d. "As no Agents or Gomastahs are to reside on Account of private Trade at any of the Inland Parts of the Country, all Business on Account of licenced private Trade is to be carried on by, and through the Means of, the Company's Covenant Servants resident at the several subordinate Factories, as has been usual."

Parag. 24th. "We are under the Necessity of giving the before-going Orders, in order to preserve the Tranquillity of the Country, and Harmony with the Nabob, they are rather Outlines than complete Directions, which you are to add to, and improve upon, agreeable to the Spirit of, and our Meaning in them, as may be necessary to answer the desired Purposes: And if any Person or Persons are guilty of a Contravention of them, be they whomsoever they may; if our own Servants, they are to be dismissed the Service; if others, the Company's Protection is to be withdrawn, and you have the Liberty of sending them forthwith to England, if you judge the Nature of the Offence requires it."

Read also the following Paragraphs of a separate

General Letter from the Court of Directors of the East India Company to their President and Council in Bengal, dated the 24 December 1765; viz.

Parag. 10th. "Your Deliberations on the Inland Trade have laid open to us a Scene of most cruel Oppression, which is indeed exhibited at one View of the 13th Article of the Nabob's Complaints, mentioned thus in your Consultation of the 17th October 1764. 'The Poor of this Country, who used always to deal in Salt, Beetle-nut, and Tobacco, are now deprived of their daily Bread by the Trade of the Europeans, whereby no kind of Advantage accrues to the Company, and the Government's Revenues are greatly injured.' We shall for the present observe to you, that every one of our Servants concerned in this Trade, has been guilty of a Breach of his Covenants, and a Disobedience to our Orders. In your Consultations of the 3d of May, we find among the various extortionate Practices, the most extraordinary one of Burjaut, or forcing the Natives to buy Goods beyond the Market Price, which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practised."

Parag. 11th. "In your Resolution to prevent this Practice, you determine to forbid it, but with such Care and Discretion as not to affect the Company's Investment, as you do not mean to invalidate the Right derived to the Company from their Phirmaund, which they have always held over their Weavers. As the Company are known to purchase their Investment by ready Money only, we require a full Explanation how this can affect them, or how it ever could have been practised in the Purchase of their Investment, which the latter Part of Mr. Johnson's Minute, entered on Consultation the 21st July 1764, insinuates; for it would almost justify a Suspicion that the Goods of our Servants have been put off to the Weavers, in Part Payment of the Company's Investment; therefore we direct you to make a rigid Scrutiny into this Affair, that we may know if any of our Servants, or those employed under them, have been guilty of such a Breach of Trust, that their Names and all the Circumstances may be known to us."

Parag. 12. "We also order you to give us the particular Instances which have confirmed you in your Opinion, that the Burjaut has been practised, that we may know whose Agents they were, and whether the Agents who practised it were countenanced and protected in it by their Masters."

Parag. 13th. "Mr. Johnson's Minute or Consultation, the 21st July 1764, cannot escape our Notice; wherein he says, 'The Support of these, and our other Privileges, in their full Extent, against the Usurpation of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy War; and after so many valuable Lives lost in the Defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the Loss of them, without greater and better Cause than has yet appeared, and till after we have found by Experience, that all other Remedies are in vain.'"

Parag. 14th. "As the Privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted Inland Trade, in which our own Servants have been so generally concerned, greatly to the Prejudice of the Company, by involving their Affairs in Distresses and Difficulties, and manifestly injurious to the Country Government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully sensible; we say, we cannot avoid taking Notice of the said Opinion, as by it Mr. Johnson seems to persevere in all Events to prefer the private Interest of Individuals to the general Good, so far as respects the said Inland Trade.—If Mr. Johnson continues in these Sentiments, as from the general Tenor of his Conduct, we have too much Reason to apprehend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous Servant; therefore, if he or any other Persons, shall persist in carrying on a Trade,



Trade, which, as before observed, has been attended with so many bad Consequences, we would have him to dismiss the Company's Service."

Parag. 15. "We shall say nothing further at present on the Inland Trade, till that important Subject shall have been taken up by Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee; only to observe, that the Regulation proposed in Consultation 17th October 1764, of confining the Trade of our Servants, in the Article of Salt, to the capital Cities of *Patna, Dacca, and Murshedabad*, on paying the Nabob Two and a Half per Cent. is a manifest Disobedience of our Orders of the 8th February, then under your Deliberation, which positively forbid all Trade in Salt, Betelnut, and Tobacco; nor does it by any Means obviate the Objections arising from the Distress of the Poor, and the Injury to his Revenues; for, if you pay only Two and a Half per Cent. and the Country People Twenty, or perhaps Forty per Cent. it is as much a Monopoly as ever."

Parag. 16. "For other licenced Trade, we think it necessary to establish, That all Trade to be carried on within the Provinces where Factories are established, shall be carried on by our Servants at such Factories, and their Agents only, who shall transact the Business of our other Servants, on receiving the established Commission; and on any Refusal to accept such Commission, or any Tendency to monopolize, the Servants at *Calcutta*, or other Parts, are at Liberty to send their own Black Gomastahs, who are nevertheless, to be accountable for their Conduct to the Company's Servants within whose Jurisdiction they reside.—All Districts not comprehended within the Jurisdiction of each Subordinate, shall be considered as within the Jurisdiction of the Board of *Calcutta*.—That no Duffuck shall be given but for Articles of Import and Export, as was formerly practised, and you are to send us a List of whatever falls under this Denomination."

Read also, Part of the Proceedings of the President and Select Committee at *Bengal*, of the 11 May 1765; viz.

"The Select Committee, observing with Regret the Contempt shewn for the positive and repeated Orders of the Governor and Council for recalling free Merchants residing up the Country;

"Resolve, That the former Orders on that Head be now enforced, and Letters dispatched to the Chiefs of the several Subordinates, requiring them, at the Expiration of One Month after Notice given, to convey in Safety to *Calcutta*, all who refuse to comply with a Measure so salutary to the Company, and necessary to the Peace and good Order of the Country.

"Being informed also, that a great Number of *Europeans*, Stragglers from Ships, and others, who have no Claim from Indentures to any Share of the Company's Countenance or Protection, are variously employed up the Country, and dispersed all over the Nabob's Dominions, to the great Prejudice of the Company, and Molestation of the Natives;

"Resolved, They be immediately secured and brought to *Calcutta*.

"The Committee finding some Difficulty in procuring an exact Account of the Names of such *Europeans*;

"Agreed, That the Chiefs of the subordinate Factories be made acquainted with the Resolutions of the Committee, and required to transmit, without Delay, the most accurate Lists in their Power of all *Europeans* not immediately in the Company's Service, who reside in or about their respective Districts."

Read also the following Resolution of the Governor and Council of *Bengal*, at a Consultation held the 20th May 1765; viz.

"Agreed and ordered, in Consequence of the Proceedings of the Committee, laid before the Board last Council Day, that public Advertisements be made, enforcing our Orders already given for the Return of the *English, Portuguese, and Armenian*, Agents; employed in the different Parts of the Country, to the Presidency; and requiring all whoever most strictly, to arrive by the First of *August*, and their Constituents to give them due Notice accordingly."

Read also a Letter from the Select Committee of *Bengal*, dated the 26th July 1765, accompanying an Advertisement as transmitted to *Dacca*, and the rest of the Subordinates, as follows; viz.

"To *John Cartier*, Esquire, Chief at *Dacca*.

"S I R,

"I am directed by the Right honourable the President and the Members of the Select Committee to request, that you will order the accompanying Advertisement to be circulated among the several free Merchants and other *Europeans*, residing in and about *Dacca*, as far as the Influence of the Government and Factory extends; and that you will procure the most exact Account in your Power of their Names and Places of Abode, which you will please to transmit to the Select Committee before the Expiration of the Time specified in the Advertisement. I have the Honour to be,

"S I R,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

"*Fort William*,  
the 26th July 1765."

"*Alex Campbell*.  
"S. S. C."

"By Order of the Right honourable the President and the Members of the Select Committee:

"Public Notice is hereby given, That the Liberty of residing up the Country, lately granted to free Merchants and others, for collecting and finally settling their Concerns, will positively cease, and the Company's Protection be wholly withdrawn, on the 21st Day of *October* next; it being the absolute Determination of the Select Committee, not to extend their Indulgence beyond that Period, nor to suffer any Violation of the Company's repeated Orders for recalling free Merchants, &c.

"It is therefore to be hoped, that such public and early Advertisement of the Intentions of the Committee, will prevent all Persons concerned from incurring the evil Consequences that may ensue to them and their Constituents from a Disregard to this actual Recall of the Company's Protection, or from a refractory Behaviour and positive Act of Disobedience to the honourable Court of Directors.

"*Fort William*,  
the 26 July 1765."

Read also a Letter to the Secretary of the Select Committee from Mr. *Francis Hare*, as follows; viz.

"To *Alexander Campbell*, Esquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

"S I R,

"In Consequence of your Favour of the 26th ultimo, I caused the Advertisement you included to be circulated amongst the free Merchants residing in *Patna* and its Districts, whose Names are as follow:

"Messieurs *Bryan Scotney*,  
"*Joseph Hare*,  
"*Alexander Josephson*,  
"*William Hutchinson*,  
"*John Hutchinson*,  
"*George Lear*,  
"*Barrow*.

"Mr.

" Mr. Peter Hare, who is in my Employ at a Place  
" called *Baggi*, under the Subahdary of *Patna*, has also  
" received Notice to repair to *Calcutta* within the Time  
" limited by the Committee.

" I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

" *Patna*, August 27th 1765."

" *Francis Hare.*"

The Committee then read Part of the Proceedings of  
the Select Committee in *Bengal*, dated the 5th October  
1765, as follows :

" Observing that our Orders to the Chiefs of the Su-  
" bordinate, to send Lists to the Committee of all Euro-  
" peans residing within their several Districts, who are  
" not in the Company's Service, have been neglected ;  
" Resolved, That we now repeat the above Orders,  
" requiring them positively not only to send the most  
" accurate Lists in their Power, but the Persons them-  
" selves, to *Calcutta*, by the 21st Instant, at which Time  
" the Company's Protection will absolutely cease, and  
" they must stand to all the Consequences of being left  
" entirely in the Power of the Country Government."

Read also the following Letter from *A. W. Senior*, to  
the President and Select Committee, dated at *Cossimbuzar*,  
the 23d Oct. 1765; viz.

" To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President, &c.  
" Members Select Committee.

" My Lord, and Gentlemen,

" I have been favoured with your Letter of the 7th  
" Instant, and shall pay due Attention to the Orders  
" therein contained.

" I should have immediately complied with your for-  
" mer Directions, by sending down a List of the *Europe-*  
" *ans* and other Merchants under our Protection, residing  
" within these Districts, but was not able to procure an  
" exact one; however I have now inclosed a List of  
" such as have come to my Knowledge, and who have all

" had timely Notice given of your Order: Besides which  
" there are many *Europeans*, as well as *Portuguese* and  
" *Armenians*, who reside at the City of *Muxadavia*, but  
" I don't find they have any Employ at all, and they  
" appear to me to be rather under the Nabob's Protec-  
" tion than ours."

" I am,

" My Lord, and Gentlemen,

" your most obedient,

" humble Servant,

" *A. W. Senior.*"

" *Cossimbuzar*,  
" 23d Oct. 1765."

" A List of *European* Agents, and others, under the  
" *English* Protection, residing at the following Places ;  
" viz.

" Mr. Hargrave, } at *Chilmay*.  
" Mr. Gundestrophe,  
" Dr. Wasmus,

" Mr. Maulby at *Seebunge*.  
" Mr. Gallwey at *Cowrengong*.  
" Captain Fole,

" Mr. Woodson, } at *Ragunge*.  
" Philip Pellock,  
" D<sup>r</sup> his Son-in-Law,

" Demetrius,

" Dautie,

" One Writer at *Dewangunge*, } In Captain *Am-*

" Two d<sup>r</sup> at *Bagon Barry*, } all's Service.

" N. B. There are several free Merchants who do not  
" come under the Name of Agents, but live entirely  
" with the following Gentlemen at their Houses as  
" Clerks, and have not, nor have had, any other Em-  
" ploy.

" Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Walker—with Mr. Jekyll, at *Rungpore*.

" Mr. James Dixon—with Mr. Gering, at *Comar-*  
" *cally*.

" Mr. Samuel Whitby—with Mr. Wright, at *Cossim-*  
" *buzar*."

And Your Committee then closed the Evidence upon  
the Petition of the said *Gregore Cojamaul*.

THIRD  
REPORT  
FROM THE  
COMMITTEE  
APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO  
THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION,  
OF THE  
*EAST INDIA* COMPANY,  
AND OF THE  
*BRITISH* AFFAIRS IN THE *EAST INDIES*.

Reported on the Eighth of *April* 1773.

Together with an APPENDIX, referred to in the said Report.



T H I R D

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

### THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION,

OF THE

### E A S T I N D I A C O M P A N Y,

AND OF THE

### BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE *EAST INDIES*.

*The 8th of April 1773.*

**T**HE Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition, of the *East India Company*, and of the *British Affairs* in the *East Indies*, having determined, as the most proper Means of fulfilling the Orders of the House, to continue the Plan of Proceeding which they had adopted in the last Session of Parliament, resumed their Enquiry into the Objects stated under the Third Head of that Plan; viz. To pursue by Historical Deduction the State of Affairs in *India*, the Manner in which the present Possessions in that Country were acquired, and the different Transactions attending those Acquisitions, beginning with the Transactions of *Bengal*, and dividing them into Three Periods; viz. from the Establishment of the present Company, to the Completion of the Revolution in the Year 1757,—from thence to the assuming the *Dewanee*, in the Year 1765,—and from thence to the present Time; and in each Period respectively to state the Situation of the Company's Affairs, and the material Parts of the Conduct of the Company's Servants, with respect to the Powers entrusted with them by the Company in the civil and military Departments, in Administration of Justice, and in the accepting of Presents, in the Management of Trade, and in the Revenues and Coinage.

And Your Committee having in their former Proceedings begun to enquire into the Conduct of the Company's Servants, with regard to the delivering up of *Ramnerain*, who had been Naib, or Deputy Governor, of *Patna*, under *Jaffer Ally Cawn*, and was continued through the Influence of the *English* in his Naibship under *Cassim Ally Cawn*, the succeeding Nabob; the first Business they entered upon was to finish that Enquiry.

But the Committee remarking, that the Information the House has yet received relative to that Matter, is only from a Transcript of their Minutes of last Year, which the Shortness of the Time obliged them to lay crude

before the House; and wherein neither the Heads of Evidence are properly arranged, nor the Purposes for which the Evidence was adduced are stated, they thought it necessary in this Place to mention, that they conceived the Transactions concerning *Ramnerain* to be of material Consequence in their Enquiry; because those Transactions have been represented to the Company, by One of their principal Servants, as the Cause of all others which contributed the most to bring on the War with *Cassim Ally Cawn*; and by another principal Servant it is alleged, that the delivering up of that Person was a necessary Duty on the Part of the Company, in Conformity to the just Rights of the Nabob *Cassim Ally Cawn*, and the Treaty subsisting between him and the Company.

Your Committee have not found any Thing upon the Records of the Company, respecting the original Engagements from the *English* to *Ramnerain*; but the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, a Member of the Committee, being requested to relate what were the Engagements entered into by *Ramnerain* with the Nabob, he said, There was no Engagement in Writing: That after his Lordship was called up to the Assistance of *Myr Jaffer*, in the Beginning of the Year 1758, his Excellency desired him to write to *Ramnerain*, assuring him of the *English* Protection; for that *Ramnerain* would put Confidence in such a Letter, but not in one himself, and that he should by that Means get Possession of his Person, and might cut off his Head.—That his Lordship told him, it was not the Custom of the *English* to be guilty of such Transactions; that if he was inclined to reduce him by Force of Arms, he was ready to assist him, but if he chose that his Lordship should make him any Promises, he must fulfil them.—That the Nabob preferred the latter, in Consequence of which his Lordship wrote to *Ramnerain*, that if he would come into the Presence, and acknowledge the Nabob, he should be kept

kept in his Government on the same Footing as he had been under *Serajab Dowlah*—That he came accordingly, paid Obedience to the Nabob, and was confirmed in his Government, upon Condition that he should pay the Nabob *Myr Jaffer* the same Rents or Tribute as he had paid to *Serajab Dowlah*; what that was his Lordship could not tell, but he believed he was to have paid a certain Sum, which might have been encreased or decreased upon various Circumstances—That when he took leave of *Myr Jaffer*, at his Departure for England, he talked over with him the State in which he left the Provinces—That he always understood that *Ramrain* remained in the Government at *Patna*, through the *English* Protection, much against the Inclination of *Myr Jaffer*; and that if his Excellency had had any Complaints to have made against him, he would certainly have made them to his Lordship; but that none were made.

Your Committee next called *William McGwire*, Esquire, who having referred, during the Course of his Examination, to several Papers, in order to elucidate his Evidence, Your Committee have annexed the said Papers herunto N<sup>o</sup> 1 to 12. And the Witness informed Your Committee, that he arrived at *Patna* as Chief, on the 4th of *January* 1761, and was dismissed from the Chiefship the 19th of *August* following, consequently he was not in the Service when *Ramrain* was delivered up; but the Witness said he had received Orders for delivering him up, which he would not execute—He could not exactly say the Time at which he received them—That his Opinion then was, that *Ramrain* should have been suspended the Service, but his Person protected: And that he understood, by the Term dismissing him (which is used in different Parts of the written Correspondence) that his Guards should be withdrawn, and that he should be totally suspended from all Interference in the Government till his Accounts should be settled: And the Witness further said, that when he was to be dismissed, he understood that Force, if necessary, was to be used, to prevent the Nabob's seizing him.

And the Committee observing, that the Witness, in his Correspondence with the Governor and Council, had advised that *Ramrain* should be delivered over to the Cutcheree, or Nabob's Court of Justice: And being asked to explain the Reasons of that Advice, he answered, That he might be compelled to make up the Accounts of the Sircar: That his Meaning by the Words in his Letter to the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, dated *Patna*, 31 *July*, "For whillt he finds your Honour, &c. are Mediators with the Nabob, not to dishonour him, he knows he cannot be obliged to comply; and under this Shelter the Nabob must go without his Accounts," was not to subject him to the various Methods used by the Cutcheree, to force Persons by Torture to settle their Accounts. That he had heard of *Genitos* killing themselves to avoid being dishonoured in that Manner. The Witness further said, That when *Ramrain* came into the Kella, previous to his being delivered over to the Cutcheree, the Nabob's Word was not his only Protection, he had the Protection of the *English*; viz. their Promises that he should not be dishonoured; and that when he advised that he should be turned over to the Cutcheree, he conceived him to be still under the Protection of the *English*: Then being asked, How *Ramrain* could be amenable to the Cutcheree, if he was under the *English* Protection? he said, As having Accounts to settle with the Government: And being further asked, Whether he meant to have resisted any compulsory Methods which the Nabob might have used? he answered, The Nabob had promised not to use any such. It further appears, from the Evidence of the Witness (taken at a subsequent Period of this Enquiry, but inserted here, for the better Connection of

the Subject) that the Witness received from *Coffin Ally Carn* 5,000 Mohurs, amounting to between 60 and 70,000 Rupees, on delivering the Keys of the Kella at *Patna*, which was a short Time previous to the Period when *Ramrain* was removed from the Government of *Patna*: And the Witness being questioned, at the same Time of his Examination, Whether he ever notified to the Court of Directors the Receipt of this Present, he declared, he did not. In regard to the Collections of Rents by *Ramrain*, the Witness said, That he never regularly collected any Money, because he foresaw a Time would come when he must render an Account: That his Manner of raising Money was by receiving Presents from different Rajahs to a large Amount, and in another Part of his Evidence, the Witness said, That the Country having been in a State of War for a considerable Time previous to the delivering up of *Ramrain*, he did not know whether the Rents could have been collected under those Circumstances:—And the Witness being asked, What *Ramrain* was to have paid for the Rent of *Babar*? he said, He never saw any Accounts relating thereto, but that sent him by the Council, in which it was stated, that he was to pay the Nabob of *Bengal* Three Lacks of Rupees a Year; that he was to pay the Chout or Tribute to the *Mabarattas*, the *Jaghiredars*, and to keep up a certain Number of Forces, all which might amount to 40 Lacks of Rupees a Year: That the Nabob did not admit that any such Agreement had been made; but if it had, *Ramrain* could not want a Sum sufficient to make his Payments to the Nabob. The Witness did not know whether *Ramrain* had paid any Rent in *Myr Jaffer's* Time, though the Agreement was said to have been made whilst he was Nabob.

Your Committee think it proper further to add, that the Witness, at the Close of his Examination, desired it to be understood, that though he was under hourly Expectation of being dismissed, and had received Orders in the intermediate Time for delivering up *Ramrain*, to be brought to settle his Accounts, by such Means as the Nabob should think proper; yet he did not deliver him over till the 19th of *August*, when he gave him to Mr. *Hay* under a Guard of Protection; and that he compromised Matters with the Nabob for 50 Lacks of Rupees, in the Beginning of *September* following.

Your Committee then called *General Carnac*, a Member of the House; who being requested to give an Account of the Affair of *Ramrain*, he referred to his Letters to the Select Committee and Governor and Council, Copies of which are hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 14 and 15; and said, That besides the Offers made him by *Rajahbullub*, as expressed in the above Letters, he received many large ones from the Nabob himself, for his Assistance to remove *Ramrain*, and had no Doubt but that great ones were made to Colonel *Coot*, who was his Superior:—That the Offer from the Nabob was no specific Sum, but unlimited:—That he could not recollect the Terms on which *Ramrain* was to hold the Naibship of *Patna*, but was certain some Engagements were entered into by Lord *Clive*, to support him in the Naibat: And being asked, What were the Circumstances relative to the delivering up of *Ramrain*? he said, He concluded that the *English* Protection was withdrawn from him immediately on the Witness's leaving *Patna*, being certain that he was recalled from thence, because the Council were conscious, that so long as he was there he would not suffer that Protection to be withdrawn: That, upon his Removal, the Military Command was placed under the Chief of the Factory, as was usual when the Commanding Officer present was not above the Rank of a Captain; and that he was certain the Field Officers were called away, that it might be so on this Occasion:—That there had not been any Disputes between the Civil and Military Powers previous to his Recall, which might account for it: That there were some

that *Harris Choudry* was put to Death by *Coffin Ally Cawn*, as well as *Ragabul* his Companion, and almost every Gentle in the Province of any Rank or Fortune, most of which *Sahs* were well disposed to the *English*, and such.—Then Mr *Vansittart's* Minute, dated July 1762, being read, wherein *Rammuram* is stated to be highly culpable towards the Nabob, and that his Conduct had put it out of the Power of the President and Council to protect him longer in so shameful an Injustice (a Copy of which is herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 16) the Witness observed, in Vindication of *Rammuram*, that the Province of *Babar* had been a Scene of War and Desolation the whole preceding Year. That the *Shahzadah* had remained in the Province with a numerous Army, so that all Resources from thence were cut off. And being asked, Whether *Rammuram* owed considerable Sums to *Coffin Ally Cawn* at the Time he was delivered up? he said, He firmly believed not; because as Lord *Clove* left *Bengal* the Beginning of 1760, and had an Assurance to take Leave before his Departure, the Witness conceived, if *Rammuram* had been in Arrear to the Nabob to any considerable Amount, the Nabob would not have failed taking Notice of it to his Lordship. And being asked, if he had heard of the *Shahzadah* having made any Offers to *Rammuram*, during his Invasion of the *Babar* Province, if he would deliver up the City of *Patas* to him? he said, He could not particularly recollect, but had no Doubt, that when the *Shahzadah* was besieging the City, he would have rewarded *Rammuram* very handsomely, if he had been base enough to betray the City to him. And being questioned, Whether he had any Conversation with Mr *Hoy*, relative to the Circumstances of *Rammuram*, and the Demands made upon him by the Nabob? he said, He was confident that Mr *Hoy* had an equal Repugnancy with himself, to the withdrawing the *English* Protection from *Rammuram*, and that if he was the Person who executed the Orders of the Council to deliver him up, he did it with great Reluctance.

The Matter contained in the above Examination, and the Papers referred to in the Appendix, connected with what will appear upon the Journals in the Proceedings of last Year, is all the Committee have collected upon the Subject of *Rammuram*.

But, in order to give further Lights to the House upon the Practices of that Period, between the Company's Servants and the Country Powers, in Matters of Protection, and also to shew the Jealousies the Nabob *Coffin Ally Cawn* entertained on that Subject, and the Determination he had formed to make exemplary Punishments of those who should seek Protection of the *English*,

Your Committee entered into the Examination of the Circumstances relating to the Seizing and putting to Death of *Harris Choudry*, in the Year 1762, and for that Purpose they examined *Stanlake Balfon*, Esquire, who informed the Committee, That he had been of the Council of *Bengal* several Years, and to the Year 1762, That *Harris Choudry* had been one of the Company's *Diadney*, or contracting Merchants, at the *Coffimbazar* Factory, in Mr *Watts's* Chiefship, and he had likewise been employed as the Company's *Vakcel*, or Agent at the Nabob's Court, but not since the Year 1756. That at the Time he was seized, he was in some Employment under *Coffin Ally Cawn*. That when Mr *Vansittart* made *Mohr Cuffin* Nabob, he permitted Mr *Mott*, an *Englishman*, to reside at *Mussadabad* as a Banker. That *Harris Choudry* complained to the Witness, that Mr *Mott* was about to seize a House or Piece of Land at *Mussadabad*, which belonged to him, and convinced him that Mr *Mott* was going to do a Piece of Injustice, and obtained of him some *Sepoys* for the Protection of his Property.—That Mr *Mott*, presuming on the Influence he had over the Nabob, by Mr *Vansittart's*

Means, did not desist from seizing the House, but applied to the Governor of *Mussadabad* for *Sepoys*, and a *Bray* happened between the Two Parties, in which he believed some were wounded; in consequence of which, *Harris Choudry* was seized, and after some Contestment blown away from the Mouth of a Cannon.—The Witness believed, Mr *Vansittart* did not use his Influence with the Nabob to save him, deeming his Execution a just Reward for his Rebellion, as he declared at the Board, upon the Witness speaking in his Favour. The Witness could not say whether it was understood by the Nabob, that he was under the Company's Protection by having their *Sepoys*, but said that he granted him *Sepoys* as having been in the Company's Service as *Vakcel* of the Factory.—The Witness further said, He believed *Harris Choudry* was put to Death merely on Account of the Contest with Mr *Mott*, and did not know of any Application of the Governor and Council to save him.—He believed *Harris Choudry* had no Opportunity of making such Application himself, being close Prisoner, but believed some Letters passed between Mr *Vansittart* and him on that Subject.

Your Committee, pursuant to the Order they had established, proceeded in the next Place to examine further into the Causes of the War between *Coffin Ally Cawn* and the Company. The general Notoriety of many of those Circumstances, and the different Reasonings of the Gentlemen of the Council in *Bengal* upon them, makes it unnecessary, in the Judgment of the Committee, to burthen the House with a Recital at large of all that appears upon the Records to have been written and argued upon this Subject; and they have therefore thought their Duty to the House fulfilled, in selecting, from the Multiplicity of Papers to which they have had Recourse, such Parts as will authenticate the principal Facts as will succinctly shew the Origin and Nature of the Disputes, and as will elucidate the parole Evidence, all which are contained in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 17 to 63.

And Your Committee again examined *Stanlake Balfon*, Esquire, who being desired to give an Account of the Effects of promulgating the *Mongbeer* Treaty, a Copy of which is herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 64, said, That on the same being made public, the Nabob *Coffin Ally Cawn* sent Orders to all his *Zemindars* and Officers to prevent the *English* from trading in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco.—That by One Letter, which fell into the Hands of the *English*, it appeared, that the Nabob had ordered the Man to whom it was addressed to stop the *English* in their Trade, all but his Friends *Messieurs Vansittart* and *Hastings*. That the said Letter ought to be upon the Consultations, and he was sure that the Words "all but my Friends *Vansittart* and *Hastings*," or to that Purpose, were in the Letter read at the Board, and that the Order was to stop the Trade. That in his Opinion the Breach with *Coffin Ally Cawn* arose from his Desire and Intention of making himself totally independent of the *English*, and not from any inordinate Desire of the *English* to carry on the Trade of the Country with ut paying him his Duties.—That he never heard that the Gentlemen, engaged in the Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco Trade, refused paying the old established Duties, but that the *English* in general traded Duty free.—That to the best of his Knowledge the *English* traded, prior to the Year 1756, in all Articles except Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, Salt Petre, and Chutta Silk, which were all farmed out.—That Salt is an Import at *Bengal*, being made at *Mossulapatam* and in *Persia*, and that for his first Adventure in that Article, which was just after the Battle of *Plassey*, he had the Nabob's Duftel, and of Course paid no Duties, but could not recollect whether he paid any afterwards.—That the *English* began to trade in Salt about the End of 1757, soon after which it became general.—That

*Coffin Ally Cawn* threatened to lay open the Trade of Bengal Duty free, but he believed never did:—That if the Order had been put in Execution, all Nations would have been on the same Footing as the *English*:—That the *English* refusing to pay the Nabob's Duties was alleged as one Cause of the Breach between them, but the Witnesses believed it was not really so, being only a Pretence.

Then General *Carnac*, a Member of the House, being examined as to the Causes of the Differences between *Coffin Ally Cawn* and the *English*, said, That in his Opinion *Coffin Ally Cawn* was determined from the Beginning to set himself out of the Reach of the *English* Power as expeditiously as possible: And that it was natural he should do so, having no Security for the *English* Faith being better kept with him than his Predecessor *Myr Jaffer*, who had been established by the unanimous Approbation of the whole Settlement; and that Act was concurred in by Admiral *Watson*, who then commanded His Majesty's Squadron in India; whereas this Revolution was effected only by a few Members of the then Administration, who availed themselves of an occasional Majority; and every Act of *Coffin Ally Cawn's* shewed his Disposition: He expressed his Reluctance on all Occasions against such Persons of the Country as had any Intercourse with the *English*, so that none of the Officers of the Government dared visit the *English* in the familiar Manner which had been usual for Two or Three Years past; he removed the Seat of the Government from *Muxadavad*, which had been the Metropolis of his Predecessors for several Years past, and intended to have established it at *Rajamaul*; but at this Time chiefly resided at *Mongbeer*, which was still considerably further from the *English* Settlement. In all Parts of the Country, of *Mongbeer* and *Dacca* particularly, they were busily employed in making Arms for him; he dismissed most of the Troops that had been in the Employ of his Predecessor, from a Suspicion of their having an Attachment to the *English*; and got a new Set of *Mughol* Officers in his Service, who brought new Troops with them; he raised and disciplined a considerable Number of *Sepoys*, and collected as large an Army as he could, at a great Expence, unnecessarily, as by the Treaty with the *English* they were to lend him Assistance in Case his Affairs required it; he endeavoured to cut off the Communication between the Factory of *Patna* and the City, by shutting up a Gate contiguous to the Factory, and fenced the Part of the City toward the River with a Wall, to the great Inconvenience of the Company's Boats; and this could only have been done with hostile Intentions, as the Vicinity of the Factory and the *English* Troops therein were the best Defence he could have on that Side.

The Witnesses observed, That many Instances of the like Nature are particularized in a Minute of Mr. *Amyatt's* to the Council, in the Month of April 1762; which Minute was read, and is in the Appendix, N° 65; and numberless Letters from the Chiefs of every Factory, particularly towards October 1762, complained of such Oppressions and Violations of the *English* Rights, as indicated an absolute Determination to quarrel.

The Witnesses further said, That the principal Adversers of *Coffin Ally Cawn* in these Measures were the *Armenians*, who seemed to wish to have the *English* extirpated from the Country, that the principal Share of the Commerce might be carried on through them: That one *Coja Gregory* was at the Head of his Army, and he had several *Armenians* in the Command of his *Sepoy* Battalions.

The Witnesses did not think there was any Violation of Treaties on the Part of the *English*; he said there might have been, and probably there were, some Abuses in the Article of Trade; and that those in the *English* Administration who were the Friends of *Coffin Ally Cawn* took great Pains to have it misrepresented, that what was called

Inland Trade was the Source of our Disagreement with him, and were very industrious in proving that Trade illegal.

Being asked, Whether the Complaints alleged by *Coffin Ally Cawn* against Mr. *Ellis* in particular were founded, he said, He did not believe they were; but that the Nabob had been indifferently taught to believe, that every Gentleman who did not approve of the Revolution was hostile to him, and from thence he had been guilty of several Instances of Disrespect to them, and refused a Visit from Mr. *Ellis*, an Indignity that had never before been offered to the Chief of a Factory: That this, with other Circumstances, might naturally excite perhaps too strong a Degree of Relentment in a Gentleman who was of a very warm Disposition.

And the Witnesses being further examined in regard to the Military Transactions of that Period, said, That on the 1st of January 1761, he took the Command of the Army, which lay encamped close to *Patna*, the Capital of the Province of *Babar*, then in a most distracted State. The Shahzadah, who had in his Service Monsieur *Lau*, with the shattered Remains of his Countrymen from *Chandernagore*, was in *Congar Cawn's* Country, not more than 50 Miles from *Patna*, whither the distressed Rajahs flocked to his Standard, and every Zemindar made a Pretext of the Troubles to evade Payment of his stipulated Revenue; so that all Resources from that Province were at a Stand—Moreover the *Hindostan* Troops, who composed Part of the Army, were grown outrageous from the Changes of Government, as they deplored recovering the immense Arrears of Pay due to them by the deposed Nabob their late Master—The Success of the Engagement with the Shahzadah, the 15th of the Month, happily retrieved the Province; for the Particulars whereof, and of the Surrender of the Shahzadah in Consequence, he referred to his public Letters in the Company's Records; and proceeded to say, that the Council were pleased to honour him with a Letter of Thanks, dated 26th Instant; and on the 19th August 1762, they communicated to him an Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors, dated 19th February, containing their Thanks likewise. The Protection afforded by the *English* to the Shahzadah occasioned much Discontent and Jealousy to the Nabob *Coffin Ally Cawn*; nor was the Prince easy on his Part, having been exceedingly alarmed by an Insurrection in his Camp, the 23d of April, in which he would most probably have been cut off but for the timely Interposition of the Witnesses.—The Shahzadah suspected this Insurrection to have been set on Foot by *Coffin Ally Cawn*; that the Prince finding, that neither the Presidency nor the Nabob were in a Condition to favour him to the Extent of his Wishes, he was solicitous to leave the *English* Army.

That in the Interim, Colonel *Coote* arrived at the Army, soon after which the Shahzadah began his March from *Patna*—That he was conducted by the Witnesses to the *Carumnaissa* (the River that separates the Province of *Babar* from *Sujah Dowla's* Country)—That he crossed the River the 21st of June, and was met the same Day a few Miles off by *Sujah Dowla*. The Witnesses proceeded to say, That all Possibility of Accommodation, from the continual Series of Disputes which had subsisted between the *English* and *Coffin Ally Cawn*, being cut off by the inhuman Murder of Mr. *Amyatt* and the Gentlemen of his Family, and his Attendants, as they were returning under the Fauch of a Safe Conduct to *Calcutta*, a War was declared against him the Beginning of July 1763; the Restoration of *Myr Jaffer* was resolved on, and he was proclaimed accordingly. The Minute of General *Carnac* to Council, 4th July, on that Matter, is in Appendix, N° 66.

The Witnesses further said, That Colonel *Coote* being departed for *Europe*, the chief Command devolved upon Major *Adams*, of his Majesty's 84th Regiment; that he the Witnesses was ordered upon a separate Command,



for the Security of the Province of *Burdwan*; but as the main Army of *Coffin Ally Cawn* was moving downwards, it was afterwards judged necessary, that the Detachment under his Command should join the Major, who had made his Way, through every Opposition, to the Capital, and possessed himself of it by Storm; that he effected that Junction with the utmost Difficulty, on Account of the Floods, and arrived in Time to have a Share of the Battle of *Geriah*, the 2d of *August*; that by the End of the Year, after a Campaign commenced and prosecuted under the inconceivable Hardships and Difficulties which inevitably attend being in the Field during the Violence of the wet Season in *Bengal*, *Coffin Ally Cawn* was driven out of the Provinces, and signalized his Flight by the unparalleled and barbarous Massacre in cold Blood of every *English* Gentleman, as well Civil as Military (Mr. *Fullerton* only excepted) and of a Number of other Persons, amounting in the Whole to near 300, who had the Misfortune, through Mischances of War, to be his Prisoners.

And in order to shew the Progress of the War with *Coffin Ally Cawn*, and his final Expulsion out of the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*; and likewise to shew what proportionable Aids had been given by the Company and the Crown in the Course of that War.

Your Committee thought it proper to enquire into the capital Points of the Military Transactions in the Year 1763, and for that Purpose examined Major *William Grant*, who informed the Committee, That he was in *India* in the Year 1763, in the several Stations of Lieutenant in the Army, Secretary and Aid de Camp to Major *Adams*, and Field Engineer; Major *Adams* was the eldest Major in his Majesty's 84th Regiment, and Commander in Chief of the Troops in *Bengal*; which Troops, when the Major took the Field against *Coffin Ally Cawn*, amounted to 600 *Europeans* and Nine Companies of *Sepoys*, each Company consisting of 100 Men; and a Detachment of the Company's Troops, consisting of 100 *Europeans* and a Battalion of *Sepoys* were at that Time at *Midnapore*, who were ordered to join him, and actually did so, after the storming the Lines of *Moorshedabad*; that, exclusive of the Army abovementioned, there was a Detachment of 50 *Europeans*, the Black Cavalry, and Three Companies of *Sepoys*, with Two Guns, ordered on as an advanced Guard of the Army, on the 25 *June*, to *Ambore*, and intended for a Protection of the *Burdwan* Province; this Detachment was with very great Difficulty equipped, there being a great Want of Bullocks for drawing the Artillery and carrying the Tents, likewise of Boats, Cooleys, and almost every other Necessary. Of the Number of about 650 *Europeans*, as above stated, about 420 might be King's Troops, and the rest were the Troops of the Company. On the 26th of *June*, the Army marched in order to join the advanced Detachment at *Ambore*, where they arrived the 10th of *July*.—On the 4th, it had been determined by the Board to proclaim *Myr Jaffer Nabob*, having the preceding Day received free Alarm of the Account of Mr. *Amoyatt* and the *Coffimbuzar* Factory, though no certain Intelligence had been procured, the Letter Carriers having been driven from their respective Stations by Order of *Coffin Ally Cawn*. On the 10th, they received Intelligence of the total Defeat of the Troops at *Patna*, and a Confirmation of the Massacre of Mr. *Amoyatt* at *Coffimbuzar*. On the 11th, the Nabob *Myr Jaffer Ally Cawn*, after having concluded the Treaty with the Governor and Council, left *Calcutta* to join the Army, and that the Witnesses attended him as his Escort. That on the 17th, they joined the Army, then advanced to *Agur-deep*. On the 19th, they came to a general Engagement with the Enemy, under the Command of *Mahomed Tucky Cawn* at *Bulghara*, when they gained a complete Victory; and in Consequence of which the Enemy abandoned *Outwall*, a Fort on the Conflux of the Rivers *Coffimbuzar* and *Agur*.

The Witnesses desired to observe, that they made an Acquisition of Bullocks, which were very much wanted; for that had it not been for the indefatigable Exertion of Mr. *Johnson*, Chief of the *Burdwan*, the Army could not have possibly advanced thus far. That he not only supplied them with Bullocks, but with Money likewise, for which they were in such Distress, that when they took the Field there were not 10,000 Rupees in the public Treasury. That on the 23d, the Army advanced to *Chuma Cully*, and on the 24th in the Morning stormed the Enemy's Investments at *Mootjeil*, by which they got Possession of *Moorshedabad*, with about 50 Pieces of Cannon of different Calibres. That about the 27th or 28th, the Army crossed the *Coffimbuzar* River, and were joined by the Detachment before mentioned from *Midnapore*. That on the 2d of *August*, after crossing a Nulla or Ravine in the Face of the Enemy, they came to a general Engagement with the Whole of their Troops, in a Plain remarkable for the former Defeat of Sultan *Sujab*, called *Geriah*: That the Enemy had collected their whole Force, consisting of 10 or 12 Battalions of *Sepoys* regularly disciplined, and (by Report) of 15,000 Horse, with 17 Pieces of Cannon, mounted in the *English* Manner, being many of them taken from their Army and Factory at *Patna*, and worked by 170 *Europeans*: That after an obstinate Dispute of Four Hours, in which the Enemy broke a Part of the *English* Troops, had taken Possession of Two Pieces of their Cannon, attacked his Majesty's 84th Regiment in Front and Rear, they gained a complete Victory, the Enemy having abandoned all their Cannon, together with 150 Boats laden with Grain and other Stores. That on the 11th, the Army advanced to *Outabnulla*, a Fort which the Enemy had fortified, being situate between the Chain of Hills and the River, from the former to the latter they had thrown up an Intrenchment; on which they had mounted about 100 Pieces of Cannon; the Intrenchment was full of Water, deep, and about 50 or 60 Feet broad, the Ground in Front was swampy, and no Possibility of an Approach but on the Bank of the River, where the Ground was dry for about the Breadth of 100 Yards; there they thought it necessary to make a Shew of a regular Attack, in order to draw off the Enemy's Attention from the Banks next the Hill; but as they were daily harassed by numerous Bodies of their Cavalry both in Front and Rear, they were under the Necessity of extending their Encampment. After having amused the Enemy with their Approaches and Batteries on the Bank of the River, where they made a false Attack; on the 5th of *September* they made the real one, on the Foot of the Hill; in which after an obstinate Resistance they succeeded, and got Possession of the Whole of their Cannon, having made a very great Slaughter of the Enemy, and taken about 1,000 of their Cavalry Prisoners. It was reported, that *Coffin* had 60,000 People in Arms in that Intrenchment, and the whole *English* Army did not amount to more than 3,000 Firelocks: That about the End of *September* they advanced to the Neighbourhood of *Mongbeer*, which they were obliged to attack regularly, and in the Beginning of *October*, after having made a practicable Breach, the Garrison, consisting of 2,000 *Sepoys*, capitulated. That Place *Coffin* had made his Capital, and had strengthened as much as his Time and Circumstances would admit. There they received Accounts of the Massacre of the *English* Gentlemen and Soldiers, who were Prisoners of War, amounting altogether to about 200, at *Patna*, and other Places.—And the Witnesses observed, That at *Chabaud*, when on March to *Mongbeer*, Major *Adams* received a Letter from *Coffin Ally Cawn*, signifying his Resolution, in case the Army should advance further, to cut off the *English* Gentlemen in his Possession. At that Time Messieurs *Adams*, *Batson*, and *Carnac* wrote to Messieurs *Ellis* and *Hay*, recommending to them to endeavour to purchase their Liberty of the Guard who were over them, at any Price; to which they returned

returned for Answer, That they ought not to be attentive to them, for they must submit to their Fate; and desired that no Consideration of their Situation should prevent the Army from proceeding in their Operations.

The Witnesses further observed, That it was while the Army lay at *Chabund* that they were informed that *Ramnarain* and *Rajab Rulab* were sent out in a Boat from *Mongbeer*, below *Coffin* had left it, to a little Reach in the River, in Sight of the Garison, where they were put to Death; and about the same Time *Raja Fatta Sing*, and Nine more of *Ramnarain's* Relations, were likewise put to Death; and that on the Advance of the Army towards *Patna*, they found the Bodies of the Two *Sees* buried in an Apartment of a House at *Babar*; they had been put to Death by *Coffin's* Order, and exposed, under a Guard of *Seeps*, to Beasts and Birds of Prey, that they might not be burned, according to the Rites of their Religion, being *Gentoos*.

And the Witnesses proceeded to relate, that about the End of the Month they were advanced to the Environs of *Patna*; which Place, after a spirited Defence, they made themselves Masters of on the 6th of November, by Storm, the Enemy having, in the Course of the Siege, got Possession of One of their Batteries, and blown up their Magazine. After the Capture of *Patna* the Enemy made no further Stand.—The Army advanced, about the End of December, to the Banks of the *Carumnassa*, the Boundary of the Province; at which Time *Coffin*, with the shattered Remains of his Army and Treasure, were waiting to complete his Bridge of Boats over the *Ganges*, in order to cross over to *Sijab Dowlah's* Country, which he entered on the 4th of December. On the 9th, Major *Adams* left the Army under the Command of Major *Knox*, intending to embark for *Europe*; and, by particular Desire of the Nabob, permitted the Witnesses to remain Twenty Days with the Army; during which Interval some of *Coffin's* Emisaries were busy with the Foreigners in their Army, Three of whom deserted, and were Two Days afterwards taken. Major *Knox's* Indisposition, he imagined, prevented his Application to Major *Adams* for a Warrant to try those Deserters—they remained in Confinement when Major *Knox* and he left the Army, about the End of December, and he believes were not at last tried by a General Court Martial. The Troops at this Time laying inactive on the Frontiers of the Province, entertained an Idea that they would not proceed to the necessary Severity of Military Punishments; and in his Opinion this was the first Grounds of the mutinous Disposition which prevailed in their Army for some Time after, and had well nigh occasioned the Loss of the whole Province. That about the Middle of January he arrived at *Calcutta*, where he received the first Account of Major *Adams's* Death.

The Witnesses being questioned as to the Condition of *Coffin Ally Cawn's* Army, he said, It was better appointed, and better disciplined, than he had ever seen an *Indian* Army before: And being asked, Whether, on the March of the Army under Major *Adams*, the Probability of Success was on the Side of the *English* or *Myr Coffin*? he said, To a reflecting Mind it must evidently have appeared in Favour of *Coffin*, though the Troops were, he believed, all determined to a Man, either to conquer or die, there being no other Resource.

The Witnesses was also asked, Where *Coffin Ally Cawn* was supplied with the great Quantities of Artillery he all along appeared to have had? and he said, That he purchased the greatest Part of his Field Artillery clandestinely of the *Europeans*; That he had Carriages made by his own People from *English* Models; but Two Six Pounders were delivered over to him at *Patna* (by whom he does not know) and that his Carriages were made with elevating Screws, and in every Respect as good as the Models.

And in order further to shew the Military Transactions of that Period, and the Rise and Progress of the War with *Sijab Dowlah*,

Your Committee lay before the House the Papers in the Appendix marked 67; and further refer to the Evidence of Colonel *Munro*, entered in the Journals of last Year, and then taken before the Witnesses left *London*, upon a Supposition that the Committee would have been able to have reached that Period in their Examinations.

Your Committee proceeded, in the next Place, to enquire into the Conduct of the Company's Servants upon the Death of *Myr Jaffer*, into the Part they took in the Establishment of his Successor, *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, and into the Motives upon which they acted; and Your Committee find, That *Myr Jaffer*, some Time before his Death, had associated in the Government his Second Son, *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, then about Twenty Years of Age, and declared him his Successor: That at the Death of *Myr Jaffer*, which happened in the Month of January in the Year 1765, Mr. *Middleton*, then Resident at the Durbar on the Part of the Company, was present at the Ceremony of placing *Nudjum ul Dowlah* on the Musnud, and gave and received the customary *Nazars* (or complimentary Presents) on that Occasion.

That it was resolved by the Governor and Council to send a Deputation, consisting of Four Gentlemen of the Council; viz. Messrs. *Johnstone*, *Lycetier*, Senior, and *Middleton*, with the Instructions annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 68.

That the said Deputation, after some Negotiation, which is explained in the subsequent Evidence and Papers annexed, concluded a Treaty with the Nabob: And in order to obtain further Lights in the above Transaction, Your Committee examined *Ralph Lycetier*, Esquire, who informed Your Committee he was a Member of the Council of *Calcutta* in 1765; that upon the Death of *Myr Jaffer*, the Governor and Council, on the Part of the Company, resolved to acknowledge his eldest Son, whom the late Nabob had, a short Time before his Death, associated with him in the Government, as his Successor to the Musnud—the Terms on which such Acknowledgement was to be made, necessarily brought to the Recollection of the Governor and Council the several Inconveniences which had been felt under the late Treaty with *Myr Jaffer*; and it was a Duty they owed the Company, by whose Arms *Nudjum ul Dowlah* was to be supported in his Government, to stipulate such Conditions as should be convenient to their Affairs.—From the Time the Barrier between the Country Government and the Company had been broke down, Contentions for Power had arisen between them, till in 1763 the *English* Affairs were brought into a most critical Situation by a War with *Coffin Ally Cawn*: In the new Treaty therefore with *Jaffer Ally Cawn*, in 1763, it had been stipulated, that he should not maintain above 12,000 Horse, and 12,000 Foot—thus deprived of Power to become formidable to the *English*, he had no Military Force that could add Strength to their Army during the War with *Sijab Dowlah*, which for some Time wore so serious an Aspect as to oblige the Servants of the Company to augment their Forces; which, together with the great Distance of the Scene of Action, increased the Military Expenses beyond the Extent of the Company's Funds in *Bengal*—this was represented to the Nabob in October 1764, and he was with Difficulty prevailed on to contribute Five Lacks of Rupees per Month, towards the Expence of the Army, so long as the War with *Sijab Dowlah* should last:—The little Assistance that had been received from any Forces that had been kept up by the Nabob, convinced the Council, that the intire Defence of the Provinces must henceforth rest upon the *English* Army—it was therefore thought wise and prudent to discharge the Nabob from the Expenses of keeping up any Military Force

but such as should be necessary for the Parade and Dignity of Government, the distributing of Justice, and the Business of the Collections; and in order to strengthen the Company for the increased Burthen of their Expenses, it was resolved to propose to the Nabob, that the temporary Assignment of Five Lacks per Month should be converted into a Perpetuity, so long as the Exigencies of the Company's Affairs should require it, as there was a Necessity for keeping up so large a Force for the Defence of the Provinces.—The established Income of the Company at this Period was about £. 1,400,000 per Annum, including the Five Lacks per Month, and exclusive of *Gesspore*, which had been ceded to the Company by the King, and had yielded to the Company near £. 230,000 per Annum—the Military Expenses, including the Charge of Fortifications, amounted to about £. 1,100,000 per Annum—Civil Expenses of Settlement to about £. 200,000 per Annum; so that there would have remained a clear Income to the Company of about £. 350,000, to be employed in the Purchase of Investments, exclusive of the Profits arising from the Sales of Goods imported from Europe.—Such was the Situation of the Company in Point of Income in April 1765; and repeatedly as the Directors had enjoined their Servants not to extend their Territorial Objects, the Council thought the converting the temporary Assignment of Five Lacks into a Perpetuity was the most eligible Mode of ascertaining to the Company proper Resources for their prodigious Military Disbursements; and if the immense Expence of maintaining an Army, sufficient to defend the Provinces, be considered, it will be found, that the Nabob was left in a Situation as desirable as any of his Predecessors. The Military of the Nabob was another very important Point to be settled.—The old Nabob had been so rivetted to *Nundcomar*, a Man of a very bad Character, that the whole Affairs of Government had been committed to him without any Controul; he had once been convicted before the Board of assisting our Enemies in their Designs on *Bengal*; and though very strongly suspected of carrying on a treacherous Correspondence with our Enemies, during the War with *Sujab Dowlah*, yet the Nabob, notwithstanding the Remonstrances of the Board, continued to support him in the Plenitude of Power.—The Court of Directors ordered he should not be employed in any Office of Trust, which, together with the Opinion the Board had formed of his Character, brought them to the Resolution of having him removed from so absolute a Sway—consenting however, if the Nabob should insist upon it, to have him in any lucrative Office, with such Checks as should prevent Mischiefs to the Public—the Board therefore came to the Resolution of recommending *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, being the fittest Man that occurred.—The immediate Collections of the Revenues was to be under *Roy Dulab* and others; and as the Company were become so interested in the Business of the Collections, it was thought proper to reserve to the Board a Right of remonstrating when improper People were employed.—The annual Fall of Rupees had been considered as a very great Grievance to that Country; it was therefore made a Stipulation in the Treaty with *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, that he would concur with the Board in proper Regulations for removing so great a Grievance.—These, with some other Articles of the Treaty formerly executed with *Jaffier Ally Cawn*, composed the new Treaty drawn up by the Board; and a Deputation, consisting of *Messieurs Johnson, Senior, Middleton*, and the Witness, was appointed, in the Middle of February 1765, to seat *Nudjum ul Dowlah* on the *Musnud*, as soon as he should have acceded to the new Treaty.—The Deputies, as was expected, met with every Opposition that could be made by *Nundcomar*, an artful, ambitious Man, whose own Power was to be so greatly lessened by the new Treaty proposed to the Nabob; and had this Man been left in the full Enjoyment of his Power, the Witness was per-

suaded the Nabob would not have objected to any other Part of the Treaty.—The chief, if not the sole, Objection that he made, was to the Nomination of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, of whom so great a Degree of Jealousy had artfully been infused by *Nundcomar*, that the Deputies found the Nabob strongly prepossessed with an Idea, that the Council meant to place *Mahomed Reza Cawn* on the *Musnud*.—The Deputies had great Difficulty in arguing him out of such a Suspicion; but, upon their solemn Assurances, that there was no such Design, he was at last convinced.—The Deputies were particularly earnest to have the Treaty executed, as they learnt that *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, by Advice of *Nundcomar*, had applied for Sunnuds from the King, intending to take Possession of the Provinces by Virtue thereof, previous to any Stipulation with the Company; and on the very Day fixed for seating *Nudjum ul Dowlah* on the *Musnud*, under the Influence of the Company, he sent Word that the Sunnuds were arrived—and it was with some Difficulty he was prevailed upon to postpone the public Receipt of them.—The Board had expressed an Opinion, that if Sunnuds were necessary, they should be obtained only through the Influence of the Company, and could not but be displeased, that *Nundcomar* should have taken upon himself to apply for them without their Concurrence.—The new Treaty having been executed, and *Mahomed Reza Cawn* having been received by the Nabob as his Minister, the Deputies prosecuted the other Object of their Commission; which was, to aim at such a Knowledge of the Revenues, as might enable the Board to give their Sentiments to the Nabob on the Allowments necessary to be made in the Collections.—To this *Nundcomar* gave the utmost Opposition, as an Enquiry into the Revenues was sure to discover any Mismanagement of his; and, as the Witness recollected, there appeared at that Time a large Sum unaccounted for, or uncollected, in which *Nundcomar* had a particular Interest. The Nabob appeared satisfied with what had been done, and he expressed his Satisfaction in a Letter to the Governor on the Appointment of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and on other Points.—The subsequent Orders of the Board, with respect to *Nundcomar*, gave the Nabob great Offence.—Mr. *George Vansittart* had just brought down from *Patna* some strong presumptive Evidence of his having carried on a treacherous Correspondence with our Enemies during the War with *Sujab Dowlah*, upon which the Council positively directed that *Nundcomar* should be sent down to *Calcutta* to answer the Charge.—The Nabob was very unwilling to part with *Nundcomar*, and wrote pressing to the Governor on the Subject.—The Board thought the public Safety required an Examination, and persisted in their Order; in Consequence he was sent down to *Calcutta*, and the several Witnesses ordered from *Patna*.—The Deputies would very willingly have been excused a Service so disagreeable to the Nabob, but it was their Duty to execute the Orders of the Council, from which they never departed.—That shortly after this, the Witness was ordered down to *Calcutta*, and resumed his Place, as one of the Members of the Board, about the End of March.

And the Witness being asked, Whether, at the Time of agreeing to acknowledge *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, the Pretensions of the other Relations of *Myr Jaffier* were considered? he said, That, as he recollected, the Board did consider that Point.—That the Competitors for the Succession to the *Musnud* were *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, *Jaffier*'s second Son, but the eldest alive, who was Twenty Years old, and a Son of the late *Chura Nabob*, who was *Jaffier*'s eldest Son, and was at that Time about Six Years old.—The Board were of Opinion it was not customary to pursue that Line of Succession which would regulate a Claim of this Sort in Europe.—*Nudjum ul Dowlah* had been brought down to *Calcutta* by *Myr Jaffier*, and all along considered by him as

the next in Succession, and, a short Time before his Death, had been associated with him in the Government—That the Council were not unanimous in that Opinion, Mr. *Burdett* dissenting; but they did not think they could deviate from the Appointment of *Jaffier*, without its carrying through the Country the Idea of a Revolution—That the public Opinion was fixed on *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, as Successor to *Myr Jaffier*, immediately on his Death. And being asked, Why the Council did not at that Time take the Dewannee? he said, It did not occur to him, that at that Period the Council took into Consideration the Propriety of applying to the King for the Dewannee; but that in 1761 the Offer of it was made to the Governor and Council, which was, after a full Discussion, refused; and the Court of Directors approved of the Conduct of the Council on that Occasion, and had frequently expressed a Wish, that their Servants would not extend their territorial Objects—That there could not be any Doubt of the Governor and Council's Power to possess themselves of the Dewannee, if it had been thought expedient—That the King, who was subsidizing on the Company's Bounty, and who had on all Occasions expressed the utmost Attention to their Interest, certainly would not have refused such a Request.

And being asked, If the Governor and Council had at that Time intrusted General *Carnac* to secure to the Company the *Gossipore* Country? he said, That it was with extreme Concern Mr. *Vansittart* and his Council were driven to the Necessity of allowing the Forces of the Company to pass the Boundaries of the *Bengal* Provinces—That the unprovoked Invasion of *Sajab Dowlab* compelled them to deviate from that Line—That the Battle of *Buxar* put the *English* Forces immediately in Possession of the Country of *Gossipore*; and as it was impracticable for the Governor and Council, after that Event, to withdraw their Forces back to their own Provinces, they resolved to ask the King for Sunnuds for that Province, as an Aid towards defraying the great Expences of the Army.

And being asked, If *Myr Jaffier* complained that the Charge of Five Lacks of Rupees per Month was continued on him longer than was necessary? he said, Not that he knew of: That *Myr Jaffier* only agreed to pay it in *October* 1764, and died in *January* 1765.

And being asked, Where he imagined Lord *Clive* was when the Treaty with *Nudjum ul Dowlab* was concluded? he said, The Board had not received any certain Accounts of his having left *England*, but from the general Tenor of the Letters expected him to come with extraordinary Powers—That it was impossible for the Council who were there to have left the Succession to the *Musnud* so long in Suspense, as to have waited his Arrival; and that it would have been equally improper to have allowed *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to exercise the Powers of Government without entering into Stipulations with him on Behalf of the Company; besides that the leaving of an Event of that Importance to the Country undetermined, would probably have created much Mischief and Confusion with respect to the Collections, and every other Object of State; and that he did not recollect that any Member of the Board proposed to wait till Lord *Clive's* Arrival.—And being asked, What were the Number of the Nabob's Forces at the Time of his Accession? he said he could not remember—That he had a great Number for the Business of Collections, and the Parade of Government, but scarce any regular military Force—and that the Treaty, settled at the Consultation in *February*, was executed by the Nabob, without any Alteration being made in the Course of the Negotiation between the Nabob and the Gentlemen of the Deputation.—And being asked, How he should have tried *Nundcomar*, who had been brought down to *Calcutta*, by Order of the Board, to answer certain Charges brought against him for Misconduct in his Office as Minister to the Nabob? he said, The Board would

have called him and the Evidence before them, and examined into the Fact—That they would have relied, upon the Evidence, whether the Accusation was proved or not; but with regard to the Punishment, he said, he did not see where the Power of inflicting it was lodged—That he did not know that the Board had Power to compel *Nundcomar* to submit to their Jurisdiction, but presumed he would not have disputed it.—That *Nundcomar*, immediately upon his Arrival at *Calcutta*, was confined, but not very closely; though, as the Witnesses remembered, he was not permitted to leave his House without Leave from the Governor—That he believed he was examined by the Board, but not till some Months after his coming to *Calcutta*.

Your Committee then examined, to the same Point, *Archibald Swinton*, Esquire, who was Captain in the Army, in *Bengal*, in 1765, and also *Persian* Interpreter and Aid de Camp to General *Carnac*: And he informed your Committee, That he had frequent Conversations with *Myr Jaffier* about the Five Lacks of Rupees per Month, stipulated to be paid by *Myr Jaffier* in *October* 1764, as mentioned in Mr. *Lyceller's* Evidence, and the other Demands made on him by the Board, of which he frequently heard *Myr Jaffier* complain bitterly; and of all the Demands made upon him at that Time, which had not been stipulated in his Treaty with the Company, on his Restoration, particularly the increased Demand for Restitution for Losses, and the Donation to the Navy.—That Mr. *John Jobynstone* was present at some of these Conversations with the Nabob, and greatly disapproved of some of the Demands, particularly of the Donation to the Navy; but that he approved of the Demand of Restitution for Losses.

And Your Committee have annexed hereunto, N<sup>o</sup> 69, the 5th, 17th, 18th, and 19th Paragraphs of the Company's separate Letter to *Bengal*, dated 24th *December* 1765, containing the Opinion of the Court of Directors upon the Conduct of the Company's Servants in the Course of the War against *Cassim Ally Cawn*, condemning the Demand which had been made of the *Gossipore* Country, and the Intention of conquering *Sajab Dowlab's* Country for the King; requiring them to adopt some System which might clearly mark out the Barriers of the Country Government and ours, and ordering the strictest Enquiry to be made, whether any Contributions had been exacted by the Servants from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla*, on his Accession to the Subahship.—They have also annexed an Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated 19th *February* 1766, N<sup>o</sup> 70, containing the further Opinion of the Court of Directors upon the Treaty with the King, upon the Measures pursued on the Death of *Jaffier Ally Cawn*, the Appointment of independent Duans, together with their strictures upon the Treaty with the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab*.—And, for the further Information of the House, respecting that Part of the foregoing Evidence which relates to the Refusal of the Dewannee at the Time then referred to, Your Committee have annexed to their Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 71, the 58th Paragraph of the General Letter from the Governor and Council of *Bengal*, dated 12th *November* 1761, containing their Reasons for refusing the Dewannee of *Bengal*; and the 55th Paragraph of the Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Council of *Bengal*, approving of such Refusal.

Your Committee then examined *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, to the same Point; who said he was first appointed a Member of the Select Committee in *Bengal*, by the Court of Directors, at the latter End of Mr. *Vansittart's* Government, but never took his Seat till after his Second Nomination, with Lord *Clive*, Messrs. *Sumner*, *Carnac*, and *Sykes*, by the Company's Orders, 1st *June* 1764, which Orders arrived in *Bengal* the 24th of *January* 1765; that he was absent from *Calcutta*, as Chief of *Chittagong*, when the Consultation was held for the Arrangement of the Affairs of Government under

*Nudjum*

*Nudjum ul Dowlab*, and never was consulted on that Subject; at that Time Fourteen or Sixteen Days were necessary for conveying a Dispatch to *Chittagong*, and receiving an Answer, there being many broad Rivers to pass, particularly one which is a Branch of the Sea; by which Means the Correspondence was rendered very uncertain; that while he was at *Chittagong*, Reports prevailed there among the People in general that there were some Delays in regard to confirming *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, and that Presents were intended to be made to the Council on his Accession.—And being asked, If he thought *Nudjum ul Dowlab* the proper Person to succeed to the *Musnud* after *Myr Jaffer's* Death, he said, According to the Laws of *Indohan* he certainly was not; that the Succession ought to have run in the Line of *Meeran*, but that those Laws are frequently deviated from throughout the whole *Mogul* Empire, and legal Right has frequently been set aside on the Accession of different Princes.—On being asked, Whether there is any Law in *Indohan* regulating the Succession of the Nabobs? he said, He meant that *Meeran's* Son was lawful Heir to all that *Jaffer* possessed, unless otherwise disposed of by Will, and that he of Right would stand in Preference for Recommendation to the Nabobship, if approved of by the Company's Servants; that the Nabobship is an Office that does not descend by Succession, being held under the Crown, though the King frequently continues it in the same Family—that at the Time of *Nudjum ul Dowlab's* Accession to the *Musnud*, he neither objected to his Elevation, nor was he ever consulted on that Matter, neither did he in his Letter to Mr. *Middleton*, wrote at that Period, mention any Thing about it, nor to any of his Friends.—Being asked, Whether, if he had been at the Board at the Time of *Jaffer's* Death, and obliged to determine on a Successor, he should have chosen *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, or *Meeran's* Son? he said, He could not pretend to say what Arguments were used, or what Circumstances laid before the Gentlemen at the Time of their Determination, but that possibly they might have been such as might have led him to concur with the other Gentlemen in the Choice of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*—That the Appointment of *Meeran's* Son might have been a more politic Measure, as there would have been a long Minority, he being only Six Years old; during which Minority, the *English* Affairs in *Bengal* would of Course have been on a more permanent Basis, as there would not have been the Ambition of the Prince to contend with—That though he was a Member of the Board at the Time of *Nudjum ul Dowlab's* Death, he did not make any Claim in Favour of *Meeran's* Son, whose Right to the Succession he did not esteem as strong then as at the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*; notwithstanding that *Sysa Dowlab*, who was *Nudjum's* next Brother, and succeeded him in the *Musnud*, was *Jaffer's* Son by another Woman, because that as the Line of Succession had been broke, such a Measure would have had the Appearance of a Revolution.—That if *Myr Jaffer* had given his Effects by Will to *Nudjum* his Son, there would not have been any Injury to *Meeran's* Son.—That he supposed the Measure adopted by the Treaty with *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, to limit the Number of his Forces, was in order to establish the superior Power of the *English*.—Being asked, What was the Annual Amount of the Nabob's Revenues, after Payment of the Sums stipulated by Treaty? he said, He could not speak from Memory as to the precise Collections in the Nabob's Time; but that, supposing them something less than they have been since, he imagined they would amount to about Two Millions Sterling.—And being asked, What would be the Nett Sum remaining for the Nabob, after paying the Expences of his Government? he said, He was not sufficiently acquainted with the Establishment to answer that Question—there would be an Expence incurred, and probably a very considerable one.

In the Course of the above Examination, Your Committee had Occasion to observe, that Mention was made of Presents to the Servants of the Company, and they pursued their Enquiries thereupon:—And Your Committee take this Occasion to remark, that they have not found upon the Company's Records, previous to the Receipt of the Covenants in the Year 1765, any direct Report from Persons concerned, of Presents received by them, it not having been the Practice with the Company's Servants for those acting separately to communicate to the Governor and Council, nor for the Governor and Council, when they were collectively concerned, to communicate to the Court of Directors, the Receipt of Presents; neither has it been the Practice, as far as Your Committee can discover, of His Majesty's Officers acting with the Company's Forces in *India* so to do.

And in regard to such Transactions as related to Presents, at the Period of the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, Your Committee examined *Ralph Lyeffer*, Esquire; who gave the following Information: That he was one of the Gentlemen of the Deputation for negotiating the Treaty with *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, on his Accession to the *Musnud*; and who, being asked, What he knew of any Presents being made on that Occasion? said, That soon after the Death of *Myr Jaffer*, an Agent of *Nudjum ul Dowlab's* came to *Calcutta* to notify his Accession to the Government, and to offer Presents to the Governor and Members of the Council, as had been before practised; that Mr. *Spencer* in particular, who was at that Time Governor of *Bengal*, offered Nine or Ten Lacks of Rupees, if he would allow all Things to remain in the State they then were; that *Juggut Chund* was the Agent, and the Time of his coming to *Calcutta* about the Middle of February 1765.—That Mr. *Spencer* communicated these Offers to the Council; and said he was informed by the same Agent, that he had Authority to offer Presents to the other Members of the Council, but that the Agent did not specify any particular Sums.—That the Gentlemen all concurred with Mr. *Spencer* in thinking it improper to receive any Presents from the Nabob, both as the Public Interests were yet unsettled, and as they saw a Public Expediency for removing *Nundcomar*, through whom these Presents were understood to be made, and who was at that Time Prime Minister and Favourite to the Nabob:—That after the Treaty was executed at *Musnadabad*, the Public Interest amply secured, and *Mahomed Reza Cawn* received into the Office which had been held by *Nundcomar*, it was mentioned to the Nabob by *Mootram*, a *Gentoo*, that if his Excellency continued in his former Mind, with respect to the offering Presents, there were not any Objections now to receiving any Marks of his Favour:—That, a few Days before this, the Nabob had offered the Witnesses, through *Nundcomar*, a Present of Two Lacks of Rupees, or any Sum he would chuse to accept, which he declined, because it was to come through *Nundcomar's* Hands:—That, about the 8th of *March*, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* came to *Moottijil*, where the Gentlemen of the Deputation resided, with the Offer of a Teep from the Nabob for 127,000 Rupees to Mr. *Johnstone*, who was at the Head of the Deputation, and One Lack 12,500 Rupees to each of the other Deputies, which they desired *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to carry back to the Nabob with proper Compliments, and to say, If they received any Marks of his Favour, they wished to receive them only from his own Hands: That about a Week after, when the Deputies were at the public Darbar, the Nabob made the same Offer, which he had repeatedly pressed the Deputies to accept as a Mark of his Favour and Satisfaction:—That after reiterated Assurances of his Regard, they at last accepted his Offers, about the 16th of *March*, on the 21st of which Month the Witnesses returned to his Station at *Calcutta*; and that in the Course of *April* and *May* following the Amount was paid to him:—That before the Witnesses left *Musnadabad*, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* expressed himself grateful for the Services

Services rendered him, and declared his Desire of presenting him with a Lack of Rupees, which at that Time the Witness said he did intend to accept; that no Teep or Obligation of any Kind was given; and that afterwards, considering that he might be one Day called upon to defend the Propriety of the Appointment of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* as Minister, he resolved not to put himself in a Situation of being suspected of supporting a Measure from pecuniary Influence, in which he had concurred from a perfect Conviction of its Public Utility:—That for this Reason he declined receiving a Draft for 50,000 Rupees, in Part of the said One Lack, which *Mahomed Reza Cawn* sent for his Use in May; and that he never received a single Rupee of the said Sum so offered by him:—That the Deputies having had an Opportunity of rendering some Service to the House of *Juggut Seet*, by recommending them to the Protection of the Nabob, it was mentioned to the Witness, just before he left *Muxadabad*, that they intended to offer some Presents to the Deputies:—That some Weeks after he was informed they had sent 10,000 Rupees to a Gentleman at *Casimbuzar* for the Use of the Witness, which he also returned, and declared that his Fortune had not on this, or any other Occasion, been benefited by the Receipt of Presents, excepting that from the Nabob, and common complimentary Nezars, which latter did not exceed £. 50 or £. 60 in the Whole; and that, considering the Custom of the Country, and the Practice of his Predecessors, there did not seem an Impropriety in receiving a Present, which was neither the Reward of any improper Services, nor the Condition of any to be performed, but the mere Consequence of Custom on the like Occasions:—That he had fully discharged every public Trust, and having declined Occasions of receiving considerable Presents, which with respect to Time and Circumstance he did not approve, he held himself at Liberty to receive the One mentioned before:—And being asked, If he recollected or had heard of any Presents being offered to any Governor and Council upon the Death of one Nabob and the Accession of another? he said, That Presents were given upon the Accession of *Myr Jaffer* on *Serajab Dowlab's* Deposition, and on the Accession of *Myr Cossim* on the deposing of *Jaffer*, which he said were the Instances of receiving Presents referred to by him in the former Part of his Evidence:—And being asked, What other Presents were made to his Knowledge? he said, That about the Time he received *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Offer, Governor *Spencer* received an Offer from him of Two Lacks of Rupees, which he believed the Governor accepted:—That Messrs. *Pleydell*, *Burdett*, and *Grey*, received at the same Time an Offer of One Lack of Rupees each, which he believed they accepted:—That some Time after the Witness left *Muxadabad*, which was about the latter End of April, the Nabob pressed Mr. *Johnstone* to accept an additional Lack of Rupees, as he understood, in the Presence of Messrs. *Senior* and *Middleton*, and at the same Time offered Mr. *Gideon Johnstone* 50,000 Rupees, which Sums they both received:—That Mr. *Senior* received 50,000 Rupees from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; and that *Juggut Seet* presented each of the Deputies, except the Witness, 10,000 Rupees, which they accepted:—And being asked, Whether the Gentlemen of the Deputation notified to the Governor and Council the Presents which were offered to them and accepted; and whether the Governor and Council notified to the Court of Directors, that they had received any Presents on this Event?—he answered in the Negative:—The Witness further said, That at the Time Presents were offered through *Nauddomar*, for the Establishment of the Government under *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, he never heard that any Offers were made on the Part of the Infant, who was the Competitor for the Nabobship, nor to his Knowledge were any Claim made on his Part:—That there was never any Stipulation with *Mahomed Reza*

*Cawn*, or any Person on his Account, as to Presents; before he was appointed Minister, nor at any other Time; neither was there any such Stipulation with the Nabob, prior to his signing the Treaty, which was ratified by him just as it had been drawn up by the Council before the Deputies repaired to *Muxadabad*, or conformable to the subsequent Instructions of the Board, which the Deputies strictly complied with.

And *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, being called to the same Point, he informed Your Committee, That while he was at *Chittagong*, as Chief of the Factory there, Reports prevailed among the People in general, that there were some Delays in regard to confirming *Nudjum ul Dowlab* in the Musnud, and that Presents were intended to be made to the Council on his Accession:—That on these Reports he wrote a private Letter to Mr. *Middleton*, who was in the Deputation appointed for negotiating the Treaty with the new Nabob, to know whether there was any Truth in the Report:—That Mr. *Middleton* wrote him Word, that he understood Presents were intended for all the Board; to which the Witness replied, That he disapproved such a Measure, and as a Member of the Board, and One supposed to be meant to be considered, he should refuse it, because he was not conscious of having rendered *Nudjum ul Dowlab* any Services to entitle him to any Expectation of that Kind; and that he did not know of any Services the rest of the Council had done *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, farther than approving his Succession to the Musnud, which he considered as a mere Matter of Form and public Duty. —Being asked, If he knew of any Services performed to Mr. *Jaffer*, by Lord *Clive*, and the Gentlemen who received Presents in 1756 from him, which it was not their Duty to have performed agreeable to the Treaty with him, and the Interest of the Company? he said, It was undoubtedly their Duty to perform any Services to the Company whenever called upon; but that the good Offices they rendered Mr. *Jaffer* were, in his Opinion, very considerable, and in performing which, their Lives and Properties were risked; but that the Case of *Nudjum ul Dowlab* was not parallel to it in his Opinion.

And *Ascanius William Senior*, Esquire, being examined to the same Point, informed Your Committee, That he was One of the Council at the Time of Mr. *Jaffer's* Death, and One of the Deputation ordered by the Council to join the other Deputies sent to *Nudjum ul Dowlab*. —Being asked, If he received any Presents on that Occasion? he said, He had, from the Nabob One Lack of Rupees, from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* 50,000 Rupees, and from the *Seets* 10,000 Rupees; which was the Whole: And being desired to state in what Manner he received those Presents, he said, That One Evening Messrs. *Johnstone* and *Leyeser* came to sup with him at the House of the Chief at *Casimbuzar*, where he resided officially at that Time:—That they informed him that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had been at *Mootejil* that Morning, with an Offer of Presents from the Nabob, without mentioning any Conditions, which they refused, and begged he would be at *Mootejil* the next Morning, when *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had promised to be there:—That he went accordingly, met him, and received the same Offer; which they all refused, telling him, that if the Nabob meant them any Presents they must come from himself, and not through other Hands:—That some Days afterwards, as they were sitting in the public Durbar, the Nabob himself requested of them to receive the Presents; which they at first refused, telling him, that as he had expressed a Dislike to their Proceedings they could not receive his Presents; to which he replied, that he was then perfectly satisfied with their Proceedings, and should not look upon them as his Friends, if they did not accept the Presents:—That they accordingly did accept them, and gave the same to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* for Payment:—That this Sum included the whole Deputation, but specified how the

Sum

Sum was to be divided, and the Distribution was explained by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*: And being asked, Whether Presents to that Amount were usual in Bengal, upon the Death of one Nabob and the Advancement of his Successor? he said, It was usual to make very large Presents on those Occasions, particularly on placing *Myr Jaffer* and *Coffim Ally Cawn* on the Mufnud, which were the only Instances he knew of: And being asked, What was the Dislike the Nabob had expressed to the Proceedings of the Gentlemen in the Deputation? he said, He understood it was because they had endeavoured to displace *Nundcomar*, the Prime Minister, agreeable to the Orders they had received:—That the Nabob did not express any Change of Sentiments when he offered the Presents at the Durbar, but that they were induced to receive them by his saying he should look upon them as his Enemies if they did not: And being asked, he said, He considered the above-mentioned Instances of *Myr Jaffer* and *Coffim Ally Cawn* making Presents, as similar to the present Occasion, though on the Accessions of *Myr Jaffer* and *Coffim Ally Cawn*, neither of them was in Consequence of the Death of their Predecessors: And being asked, What Services the Deputies had done the Nabob? he said, He looked upon the Solemnity of feasting him on the Mufnud to be the Services meant, that never having been done in a public Manner till the Deputies performed the Ceremony: And being asked, If he thought any Article of the Treaty was agreeable to the Nabob? he said, That some of the Articles were not agreeable to him when the Treaty was proposed to him, but he expressed himself satisfied with it some Time afterwards: Being asked, Whether any other Presents were made than those he had mentioned? he said, That the Nabob made Mr. *Spencer*, the Governor of Bengal, a Present of Two Lacks of Rupees, and gave One Lack each to Three of the Council, Messrs. *Pleydell*, *Gray*, and *Burdett*, and 50,000 Rupees to Mr. *Gideon Johnstone*:—That some Time afterwards he made an additional Present of One Lack of Rupees to Mr. *John Johnstone*: And being desired to state the Circumstances of that Present; he said, That a short Time before Mr. *Johnstone* left the City, when the Witnesses was with him, and, as he believes, Mr. *Middleton*, at the Durbar, he heard the Nabob and Mr. *Johnstone* in earnest Discourse; that on asking Mr. *Johnstone* what was the Subject of their Conversation, he told him, the Nabob had sent him an Offer the Day before to *Mootejil*, by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, of a Lack of Rupees, which he had then refused, and that the Nabob was then requesting him to accept it—That he had again refused it; and he asked the Witness's Opinion of the Matter, who said, That if the Nabob had made him the like Offers he should think no harm in accepting it; whereupon the Witness believed Mr. *Johnstone* did accept it: And being asked, If Mr. *Gideon Johnstone* was a Member of the Board, or in the Company's Service, at that Time? he said, He was not at the Board, but afterwards received his Appointment to the Service as a Writer: And being asked, he said, He had never heard that any other *Englishman* out of the Company's Service had received any Present upon the like Occasion; and that there were no other *English*, besides Mr. *Gideon Johnstone*, out of the Company's Service at the Nabob's Court at that Time: And being asked, Whether, at that Period, he had had any Offers of Presents from *Nundcomar*? he said, That some Days before the Arrival of the other Deputies, *Nundcomar* paid him a Visit at the Factory at *Cossimbuzar*, when he made the Witness an Offer of Five Lacks of Rupees; and also told him, in the Presence of Mr. *Joykill*, that if he would give him a Promise to withhold his Favour from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the above Sum should be sent into the Factory that Night or the next Morning; but that he refused the Present on Account of the Conditions on which it was offered: And being asked, If he knew of any Influence or Solicitation to the above-

mentioned Presents from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*? he said, He did not; and that if he had ever suspected that there had been any Application for that Purpose, he would not have accepted any Presents from him; that he had rendered some personal Services to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, before that of appointing him Naib Subah, and after *Myr Jaffer* returned to the Army, by protecting him from the ill Usage of his own Share, but that neither Mr. *Leycester* or Mr. *Johnstone* received theirs: That Mr. *Leycester* mentioned to the Witness, some Time in March, that, for particular Reasons, he should not receive his Share of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Present:—And being asked, he said, That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* called upon him in the Factory, about the 14th or 15th of May 1765, on his Way to Calcutta, and shewed him a Letter he had received from Lord *Clive*, requesting his Attendance at Calcutta; and that though the Letter was wrote in genteel Terms, yet being naturally of a timid Disposition, he expressed great Fears on the Occasion; that the Witness endeavoured to remove those Fears, by assuring him, that he knew Lord *Clive* very well, and that no harm was intended him, but that he would be civilly treated; and took an Opportunity of mentioning to him, that as Mr. *Leycester* had signified to him his Objections to accepting the Presents he had offered him, the Witness should beg Leave to return those which he had given him: That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* replied with some Surprise, that he did not look upon the Witness in the same Light as the other Gentlemen; that he had shewed himself his particular Friend on many Occasions, even to saving the Lives of him and his Family, at a Time when it was not in his Power to make him any Acknowledgement; but that now, when it was in his Power, he begged and intreated, with Tears in his Eyes, that the Witness would not return his Present. That those Considerations, together with his not being at that Time a fitting Member at the Board, and his having some Thoughts of quitting the Service and returning to Europe that Season, by which it could not be supposed that he took the Present for any future Considerations, induced him to keep it: And being asked, What Presents were made by *Juggut Seet*? he said, He received 10,000 Rupees, and heard that he intended to make it up 30,000 to each of the Deputies:—That he apprehended *Juggut Seet's* Reason for offering those Presents was, to induce the Gentlemen to recommend him to the new Nabob, his Favour and Protection being useful and necessary to him in his Business as a Banker:—That he did not know of any other Sums of Money being given to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, or of the Council, than those he had mentioned; and that though he heard the Company intended to send out fresh Covenants to their Servants, respecting the accepting of Presents, that he did not know the Conditions of them till they were sent up to him to be executed at *Cossimbuzar*, in the Beginning of June 1765.

And Your Committee examined General *Carnarvon* upon the Subject of Presents; who being asked, When he signed the Covenants (Copies of which are entered in the Journals of this House of last Year) relating to Presents? he said, It was some Time after his Arrival at Calcutta, about the Middle of September 1765, and that he distributed them among the Army under his Command as soon as they came to his Hands, which was not till near the End of July or the Beginning of August, with Orders to execute them immediately:—That he had not signed them himself, at the Time he gave Orders to the Army to execute them, because they

were dated from a Period prior to his having any Intimation of them;—that those distributed among the Army were all dated from the same Time; and that he did not make any Alterations in them before he required the Officers to sign them; it not being his Business to start Objections for other People; but that if they had made the same Objections as he had done, he should have thought them in the right: And being asked, Whether Captain *Swinton*, his Aid de Camp, signed the Covenants? he said, He had not, neither had they been tendered to him. That he looked upon the Captain more as a Volunteer than actually in the Service, as he had declared his Determination of returning to *Europe* that Season, long before the Receipt of the Covenants; and that his Stay in *Bengal*, which was very short after that Time, was in Compliment to the Witnesses: And being asked, If it was not his Duty, as Commander in Chief of the Army, to set the Example of Respect and Deference to his Constituents, by signing the Covenants? he said, He certainly should have signed them but for the Reason above stated: And being asked, Whether, when the Covenants were distributed to the Officers of the Army, they had any Intimation given them, that the General and his Aid de Camp had not signed them? he said, They had not any such Intimation from him: And being asked, What Presents he received, from the Time the Covenants arrived in 1765 to the Time he signed them? he premised, That he did not know, till long afterwards, that the Covenants had arrived in 1765; and said, That after that Time, but previous to his knowing any Thing of the Covenants, he received a Present of 80,000 Rupees from *Bulwant-sing*, Raja of *Benaras*; and in September, then knowing of the Covenants, the King made him a Present of Two Lacks of Rupees, in the Manner as stands recorded on the Consultations of that Period:—That *Bulwant-sing's* Present was publicly known, but that he never transmitted any Notice of it in Form to the Governor and Council; and the following Words, in a Minute signed by the Witnesses at a Consultation the 3d of February 1766, being read; viz. “I never received “from him (*Sajab Dowlat*) for my own Use, a single “Rupee:”—And the Witnesses being asked, Whether he ever received any from him for the Use of any other Person? he said, He never did.

And Your Committee pursuing their Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Presents mentioned in the above Evidence; and the original Covenant signed by General *Carnac* being produced, they find, that it is dated the 9th of November 1765; but in the Minute of General *Carnac*, on the Bengal Consultations of the 3d of February 1766, Your Committee find the following Words; viz. “With regard to the Covenants, it is true, I did “not execute mine at the Time of my first renewing “them, because they were dated too far back, and pre- “viously to my being made acquainted with them; and “I was in the less hurry to go through this Ceremony, “by Reason that I looked upon myself as equally “bound by them, whether executed or not, from the “Moment I was publicly apprized of the Company’s “Pleasure on that Subject.”

And Your Committee further find, That by the Terms of the Covenant the Servants of the Company are bound to account for, and pay, to the said Company, for their sole and proper Use and Benefit, all and every such Gifts, Rewards, Gratuities, Allowances, Donations, or Compensations, whatsoever, which, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of those Covenants, shall have come into their Hands, Possession, or Power.

And Your Committee do not find That the Present of Two Lacks of Rupees received by General *Carnac* has ever been paid to the Company; but that Notice was given to the Court of Directors of the Receipt thereof, by the General Letter from the Council, and a Letter from Lord *Clive*, dated 30 September 1765 (Copies of which are herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 72 and 73)

That the Court of Directors, by their Answers of the 17th of May 1766 (Copies of which are also annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 74) promised to take the same into Consideration; but the Committee have not discovered by the Records of the Company, that any Thing further has been done relating thereto.

And Your Committee having gone through the Enquiries to which the First Examinations upon the Deposition to *Nudjum ul Dowlat* immediately led, and likewise through their Enquiry into the Presents received by General *Carnac* subsequent thereto, they thought this a proper Occasion, though they might in some Degree deviate from the Course they had prescribed to themselves for preserving the Order of Time, to connect and lay before the House all other Discoveries which have yet come within the Compa's of their Proceedings upon the Subject of Presents.

And *William Macgwire*, Esquire, being examined in regard to Presents received at the Time of the Revolution in Favour of *Coffin Ally Cawn*, upon which Subject many Circumstances are stated upon the Journals of last Session: He informed Your Committee, That he was a Member of the Select Committee at *Bengal* at that Time; that he was not present at any Meeting when a Sum of Money was offered by *Myr Coffin*; but heard from Mr. *Vanfittart*, that an Offer of Twenty Lacks was made as a Present, after he was established in the Nabobship, which Offer was rejected by Mr. *Vanfittart*, who informed the Witnesses, that he had told *Coffin* he would not receive any Present till all the Demands of the Company were satisfied: And being asked, If he had ever received any Part of the above Sum, so offered by *Myr Coffin*? he said, He had received a Present from him in the Year 1761, to the Amount of One Lack and 80,000 Rupees: And being asked what Circumstances attended the Receipt of that Present? he said, That an Agent brought him a Teep, the latter End of the Year 1760, for Two Lacks of Rupees, which Teep he sent to Mr. *Hobwell*:—That he communicated the Affair to some of the Select Committee in private Conversation, but could not recollect he told Mr. *Vanfittart* of it; and that he never reported it to the Select Committee officially:—That he heard that some other Gentlemen of the Select Committee received Presents at the same Time:—That the above Sum is all he received at any Time, except the 5000 Mohurs, mentioned in a former Part of this Report.

And Your Committee having observed, in some Letters which passed between Lord *Clive* and the Court of Directors, in the Year 1768 (which were laid before Your Committee pursuant to their Order, and Copies of which, with the Inclosure in the Letter of 14 January 1768, are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 75 and 76) That the Court of Directors had required from his Lordship certain Papers said to be in his Possession, and to contain Proofs of Governor *Vanfittart's* having received Seven Lacks of Rupees for making the *Mongber Treaty*; and further observing from the same Correspondence, that his Lordship had ordered the Delivery of them, expressing as his Reason for so doing that Mr. *Vanfittart* himself seemed desirous of it; Your Committee called for the said Papers from the Directors; and the following were produced accordingly:

Letter from Mr. *Walsh*, accompanying the Delivery of the Papers to the Directors, dated 19th of June 1768, and mentioning Mr. *Vanfittart's* Request upon that Subject.

Deposition of *Sheik Hedayet Alla*, the Original in *Persian*, sworn before *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, and the Translation attested by *W. H. Cox*, sworn Translator; purporting, That in December, in the Year 1762, when he was Treasurer under the Nabob, he issued, by his Excellency's Commands, Two Lacks at Four different Payments to Mr. *Vanfittart*; and that Two Ladies who



were in Company with the Governor went into the Zenana, and received Jewels.

Deposition of *Bolackidaji*, Sahicar or Banker, the Original in *Perjan*, sworn before *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, and the Translation attested by *W. H. Cox*, as above; purporting, That, in *December 1762*, the Nabob (for whom he was employed in negotiating Bills) One or Two Days before *Mr. Vanfittari's* Departure for *Azimebad*, signified to him his Pleasure, that he should transmit the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees to *Mr. Vanfittari* in *Calcutta*; in consequence of which he wrote to his Gomastah at *Hoogly*, to pay the aforesaid Amount into *Mr. Vanfittari's* Hands: That the Gomastah did so, and gave him Information thereof.

Letter from *Mr. Vanfittari* to the Court of Directors, containing his Answer to the above Charge, and his Sentiments thereupon.

Letter from *Bolackidaji* to *Mr. Vanfittari*, wrote

soon after he made his Affidavit, and inclosed in *Mr. Vanfittari's* Letter to the Directors.

And Your Committee have added Copies of all those Papers in their Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81.

The next Proceedings of Your Committee, upon the Subject of Presents, relate to the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees received by *Lord Clive* from the Begum, or Mother of the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla*, in the Year 1766; but as Your Committee have not had Time to go through all the Evidence respecting this Transaction, and examine the Account on which the same is alleged to have been received, or the Application said to be made thereof, they purpoise to report upon the same on some future Day.

Your Committee have no further Matter to lay before the House upon the Subject of Presents; but, in order to give the House a summary and comprehensive View of the Whole they have hitherto discovered upon an Object so important, they have thought proper to add the following Schedule.

ACCOUNT of such Sums as have been proved or acknowledged before the Committee to have been distributed by the Princes and other Natives of *Bengal*, from the Year 1757 to the Year 1766, both inclusive; distinguishing the principal Times of the said Distributions, and specifying the Sums received by each Person respectively.

Revolution in Favour of *Meer Jaffer* in 1757.

Mr. Drake (Governor)	— R. — —	Rs. 280,000	£. 31,500
Colonel <i>Clive</i> as Second in the Select Committee	— — — —	Rs. 280,000	
Ditto as Commander in Chief	— — — —	200,000	
Ditto as a private Donation	— — — —	* 1600,000	
		20,80,000	234,000
Mr. Watts as a Member of the Committee	— — — —	240,000	
Ditto as a private Donation	— — — —	800,000	
		1040,000	117,000
Major <i>Kilpatrick</i>	— — — —	240,000	27,000
Ditto as a private Donation	— — — —	300,000	33,750
Mr. <i>Maningham</i>	— — — —	240,000	27,000
Mr. <i>Becher</i>	— — — —	240,000	27,000
Six Members of Council One Lack each	— — — —	600,000	68,200
Mr. <i>Walsh</i>	— — — —	500,000	56,250
Mr. <i>Srafsen</i>	— — — —	200,000	22,500
Mr. <i>Lusington</i>	— — — —	50,000	5,625
Captain <i>Grant</i>	— — — —	100,000	11,250
Stipulation to the Navy and Army	— — — —	— —	600,000

£. 1,261,074

Memorandum, The Sum of Two Lacks to *Lord Clive*, as Commander in Chief, must be deducted from this Account, it being included in the Donation to the Army

Lord *Clive's* Jaghire was likewise obtained at this Period.

22,500

£. 1,238,574

Revolution in Favour of *Cassim*, 1760.

Mr. Sumner	— — — —	— —	28,000
Mr. Holwell	— — — —	Rs. 270,000	30,937
Mr. <i>M<sup>r</sup> Gwira</i>	— — — —	180,000	20,625
Mr. Smyth	— — — —	134,000	15,354
Major <i>Tort</i>	— — — —	134,000	15,354
General <i>Caillaud</i>	— — — —	200,000	22,916
Mr. <i>Vanfittari</i> , 1762, received Seven Lacks; but the Two Lacks to General <i>Caillaud</i> are included; so that only Five Lacks must be accounted for here	— — — —	500,000	58,333
Mr. <i>M<sup>r</sup> Gwira</i> 5000 Gold Mohrs	— — — —	75,000	8,750

£. 200,269

# 312 1773. THIRD REPORT *on the Nature, State,*

Revolution in Favour of *Jaffier*, 1763.

Stipulation to the Army	—	—	Rs. 2500,000	£. 291,666
Ditto to the Navy	—	—	1250,000	145,833
				£. 437,499

Major <i>Munro</i> * in 1764 received from <i>Bulwan Sing</i>	—	—	—	10,000
Ditto	—	—	from the Nabob	3,000
The Officers belonging to Major <i>Munro</i> 's Family from Ditto	—	—	—	3,000
The Army received from the Merchants at <i>Banaras</i>	—	—	Rs. 400,000	46,666
				£. 62,666

\* It appears Colonel *Munro* accepted a Jaghire from the King, of £. 12,500 a Year, which he delivered to the Nabob *Meer Jaffier*, the Circumstances of which are stated in the Journals of last Year, 825.

*Nudjunn ul Dowla*'s Accession, 1765.

Mr. <i>Spencer</i>	—	—	200,000	23,333
Messieurs <i>Playdell</i> , <i>Burdett</i> , and <i>Gray</i> , One Lack each	—	—	300,000	35,000
Mr. <i>Johnstone</i>	—	—	237,000	27,650
Mr. <i>Leycester</i>	—	—	112,500	13,125
Mr. <i>Senior</i>	—	—	172,500	20,125
Mr. <i>Middleton</i>	—	—	122,500	14,291
Mr. <i>Gideon Johnstone</i>	—	—	50,000	5,833
				£. 139,357

These Sums appear by Evidence to have been received by the Parties; but the Committee think proper to state, That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* intended a Present of One Lack of Rupees to each of the Four Deputies sent to treat with *Nudjunn ul Dowla* upon his Father's Death; viz. Messieurs *Johnstone*, *Leycester*, *Senior*, and *Middleton*; but Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Leycester* affirm that they never accepted theirs; and Mr. *Johnstone* appears to have tendered his back to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, who would not accept them. These Bills (except Mr. *Senior*'s, for 50,000 Rupees) appear to have been afterwards laid before the Select Committee, and no further Evidence has been produced to your Committee concerning them. Mr. *Senior* received 50,000 Rupees of his, and it is stated against him in this Account.

General <i>Carnac</i> received from <i>Bulwan Sing</i> in 1765	—	—	Rs. 80,000	£. 9,333
Ditto	—	—	from the King	200,000
Lord <i>Clive</i> received from the Begum in 1766	—	—	500,000	58,333
				£. 90,999

Restitution ——— *Jaffier*, 1757.

<i>East India Company</i>	—	—	—	£. 1,200,000
<i>Europeans</i>	—	—	—	600,000
<i>Natives</i>	—	—	—	250,000
<i>Armenians</i>	—	—	—	100,000
				£. 2,150,000

*Coffin* 1760.

<i>East India Company</i>	—	—	—	£. 62,500
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*Jaffier* 1763.

<i>East India Company</i>	—	—	—	£. 375,000
<i>Europeans</i> , <i>Natives</i> , &c.	—	—	—	£. 600,000
				£. 975,000

Peace with *Sujah Dowla*.

<i>East India Company</i>	—	—	Rs. 50,00,000	£. 583,333
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Total of Presents £. 2,169,665 }  
 Restitution, &c. 3,770,333 } Total Amount — £. 5,940,498 Exclusive of Lord *Clive*'s Jaghire.

Memorandum, The Rupees are valued according to the Rate of Exchange of the Company's Bills at the different Periods.

Your Committee think it right, next to state to the House, their Enquiries into the Transactions of the Company's Servants, relative to the Affairs in Bengal, from the Date of Lord Clive's Government in the Year 1764; and they find, That on the 2d of May of that Year, Lord Clive, then in England, was sworn in President and Governor of Bengal, and Commander in Chief of the Forces there; and that Messrs Sumner and Sykes, then also in England, were appointed Counsellors at that Presidency, the former to succeed to the Government. And Your Committee further find, That Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, General Carnarvon, Mr. Verelst, and Mr. Sykes, were appointed a Select Committee, by a Letter of the Court of Directors, dated the 1st of June 1764; which Letter, containing the Powers with which the said Committee were vested, is in the Appendix.

And Your Committee find, That Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, and Mr. Sykes, sailed from England for India the 4th of June 1764; and that they arrived at Madras the 2d of April 1765.

And Your Committee being informed, That Lord Clive, in Consequence of Intelligence he received at Madras of the Situation of the Company's Affairs in Bengal, had wrote from thence Two Letters of material Consequence, which did not stand upon the Company's Records, the one to Mr. Rous, the other to Mr. Walsh, and partly in Cypher, they proceeded to enquire into that Transaction; and for that Purpose, they examined Peter Michell, Esquire, who being asked, If he knew of any Letter written in Cypher from Lord Clive to Mr. Walsh, in 1765? he said, He had such a Letter—that it was dated the 17th of April 1765, and was delivered to him by Mr. James, the late Secretary, as an official Paper—that the original Letter appeared to have been put into Mr. James's Hands by Mr. Rous, about the 29th of March 1766, Part of it being in Cypher, in order to be deciphered, the Key of the Cypher being in the Possession of Mr. James, who in a Day or two afterwards delivered it to the Witness that he might decipher it—which being done, he returned it, together with the deciphered Copy, to Mr. James, by whose Direction he afterwards made another Copy of it, which he also delivered to Mr. James; upon whose quitting the Office it again came into the Possession of the Witness.—Being asked, Whether any of the Directors, except the Members of the Secret Committee, at that Time knew any thing of that Letter? he said, He believed not; and that he did not know what became of the original Letter.— And Two Letters were produced, that to Mr. Rous containing various Intelligence and Opinions of Lord Clive, respecting the Affairs of Bengal—that to Mr. Walsh containing Directions to his Lordship's Attorneys to make Purchases in India Stock; and the said Letters are added in the Appendix N<sup>o</sup> 82 and 83.

Your Committee called George Dudley, Esquire, who informed Your Committee he was Deputy Chairman of the East India Company, at the Time Lord Clive's Letter to Mr. Walsh arrived in England—that it was brought to the Secret Committee, when, he believed, only Messrs Rous, Boulton, and himself, were present—that they afterwards held a Secret Committee, and from thence carried the Letter to the Court of Directors—that the Letter to Mr. Walsh was not read in the Court of Directors; that to Mr. Rous (which arrived at the same Time) was, except the last Paragraph, which mentioned that there was a Letter to Mr. Walsh; and that Nothing was done upon it. And it appeared by the same Evidence, that the above-mentioned Letter from Lord Clive to Mr. Rous was brought by the Witness to the Secret Committee, the 30th of March 1766.— Being asked, If he remembered any Proposition for burning the Letter, or taking a Copy of it, or any self-denying Obligation, which the Gentlemen present entered into not to deal in Stock, in consequence of it? he said, That the Gentlemen present did take a Copy of it, which Copy is now in the Office; but that he did

not remember any of the other Particulars of the Question; that the Secret Committee having the Key to the Cypher, they kept a Copy of the Letter of Course, that the whole Committee might know all their Transactions; and that a Copy of the Letter was given to Mr. Walsh—that they did not communicate the Intelligence, that Lord Clive had given Orders to lay out all his Money in the India Stock, to the Proprietors nor the Court of Directors—that the Purport of the Letter to Mr. Walsh was communicated to Messrs Rous, Boulton, and himself, but never laid before the whole Secret Committee.—Being asked, Why the Secret Committee concealed from the Court of Directors one Part of the Letter to Mr. Rous? he said, That to the best of his Remembrance Mr. Rous desired it might be so, as he conceived the Letter to be a private Letter to himself, and that he had a Right to conceal what Part of it he thought proper; and the Witness said, He concurred with Mr. Rous in thinking it was a private Letter: And being asked, he said, That Lord Clive did not write a public Letter, either to the Court of Directors or Secret Committee at that Time, but that Mr. Rous's Letter was read to the Court of Directors by the Secretary as an entire Letter, and not as an Extract: And being asked, If he knew the Reason of Lord Clive's Letters to Messrs. Walsh and Rous being written in Cypher? he said, He imagined it was, that the Contents might not be known to our Enemies, as the Letter came by a French Ship from Pondicherry.—Being asked, If he thought the Secret Committee had a Power to suppress any Part of a Letter on the public Service? he said, He thought not; and that they never did conceal any Parts of a public Letter, to the best of his Knowledge—that the last Paragraph of Lord Clive's Letter to Mr. Rous was concealed, and no other, the rest being of a public Nature: And being asked, If Lord Clive's Letters to Messrs Rous and Walsh could have been deciphered by any Means but by bringing them to the India House? he said, He believed not; because there was no Key that he knew of, except that at the India House—that the Company's Secretary has the Key in his Custody, which cannot be procured by any but the Chairman and Deputy Chairman jointly, as the Witness believed: And being asked, If every Director or Member of the Company has a Right to have private Letters written to him, under the Company's Cypher? he said, He did not know of any being sent before this—that they cannot help their being sent, but would find a Difficulty to get them deciphered without the Company's Key—that though the Witness never considered Lord Clive's Letter to Mr. Rous as an official one, that the Directors acted in all Respects as if it had been one; and that it was communicated to the Court of Directors in order to make it public.

Your Committee then examined the Right honourable Lord Clive, a Member of the House; who being asked, Whether it was his Intention that his Letter to Mr. Rous in Cypher, of the 17th of April 1765, should be kept secret? and the Letter being read to his Lordship, he said, He did not intend that that Letter should be kept secret from the Court of Directors or Mr. Walsh, though he meant that Mr. Walsh should not divulge the Contents of it, because it was of a Political Nature: And being asked, In what Public Station respecting the East India Company Mr. Walsh was, that his Lordship conceived the Political Matters, which should be kept secret from all others but the Directors, should be communicated to him? he said, That Mr. Walsh was not in any Public Station whatever belonging to the Company at that Time, but that he was his Lordship's particular Friend—had formerly been a Servant of the Company's Abroad for many Years, and from the Revolution of Plassey, till a considerable Time afterwards, was his Secretary, and was intrusted with all the Political Transactions during the Time that his Lordship was in the Command of the Army, and likewise a Part of the Time of his Government in Bengal: And being asked, If, when his

Lordship

Lordship wrote his Letter to Mr. *Rous*, in which he speaks of undertaking the *Herculean* Labour of cleansing the *Augean* Stable, he had been informed of any Fact to entitle him to make use of that Expression? he said, He had Information of many—and that the Whole of Mr. *Vansittart's* Narrative was laid before him by Mr. *Palk*:—That it was not from that Narrative alone he made use of the Expression, but from various Accounts that he had from every Body he met: And being asked, If he could particularize any Fact told him by any Person, upon which he founded his Letter to Mr. *Rous*? he referred to the public Records of the Company—and that he heard a Confirmation of them from many Persons, particularly of the Company's Servants carrying on the Trade in Salt at first Duty free, and afterwards on paying Two and a Half per Cent. and all contrary to the Company's Orders: He is not certain of that Fact, but is sure that when Mr. *Vansittart* had established, by Agreement with *Coffin*, the Duty of Nine per Cent. the Majority of the Council denied Mr. *Vansittart's* Authority, and insisted upon their Right to trade Duty free, by Virtue of the Royal Phirmaund, at the same Time that they insisted that *Coffin Ally Cawn* should not suffer his own Subjects to trade Duty free:—That on this Fact and many others he founded the Expression of cleansing the *Augean* Stable. A further Instance he mentioned, which was, the Complaints of the Inhabitants, that the Company's Servants, and the Agents acting under them, had engrossed and monopolized the whole Trade of the Country; and the Witnesses being again requested to specify any particular Complaint, he declined specifying any more, and referred the Committee to the Company's Records.—Being asked, If he thought the Conduct of the Council, in refusing to conform to the Treaty made by Mr. *Vansittart* at *Mongber*, agreeing to pay Nine per Cent. was improper? he said, He thought that Part of the Treaty was improper, because in his Opinion they ought to have paid a great deal more:—That he did not think the whole Treaty was proper, neither did he think Mr. *Vansittart* was authorized to conclude a Treaty without laying it before the Council; and that General *Cornac*, Mr. *Verelst*, and Mr. *Cartier*, gave it as their Opinion, that the Company's Servants had a Right to trade Duty free by the Royal Phirmaund; and that with respect to the Duty of Nine per Cent. Mr. *Vansittart* had no Right to conclude such a Treaty with the Nabob; and that he considered the Inhabitants of Bengal as Subjects to the Nabob, because the Mogul's Power was annihilated: And being asked, If he admitted that he had formed a Resolution at *Madras* to seize the *Dewanee*, dismiss Part of the Company's Servants, and to call some of the senior Servants from the other Settlements to fill up their Places, upon his Arrival at Bengal? his Lordship said, He did not admit he had formed any one of those Resolutions at that Time.

Your Committee next examined *John Walsh*, Esquire, a Member of the House; who informed them, that he was One of Lord *Clive's* Attornies when he was Abroad: And being asked, What Quantity of *India* Stock he purchased for Lord *Clive*, in Consequence of the Letter in Cypher from *Madras* to him, on the 17th of April 1765? he said, That Letter was received the 30th of March 1766, and that on the 20th of April following the Packet of the *Admiral Stevens*, forwarded from *Lisbon*, brought public Advices from Lord *Clive*, then at Bengal, relative to our being in Possession of the *Dewanee*; in which Interval Lord *Clive's* Attornies bought for him £. 12,000 Principal Stock, which was fairly bought and paid for; and that, as the Witnesses believed, it was a Year at least before any Part of it was sold out:—That it was sold out, and was not employed in buying in again, but was disposed of to complete a Purchase of Land that Lord *Clive* had made:—That he did not make any Secret of the Opinion he entertained at that Time of *India* Stock, but spoke of it to many Persons as a very beneficial Thing, some of whom, as he un-

derstood, bought in Consequence:—That a great Part of Lord *Clive's* said Stock was bought at £. 165:—That after the Arrival of the *Admiral Stevens*, some Stock was bought for Lord *Clive* at £. 175, and some at £. 179; and that *East India* Stock remained at £. 190 Three or Four Months afterwards: And being asked the Amount of the other Purchases made for Lord *Clive*? he said, That after the Arrival of the public Advices, there was bought on the 21st of April £. 13,000 at £. 175, and £. 5000 at £. 179; on the 9th of May, being the Whole that was bought for Lord *Clive* while he was Abroad; and he added, that Lord *Clive's* Letter to him was delivered to him by Lady *Clive*, at the same Time that Mr. *Rous* received his Letter, they being both at her Ladyship's House:—That Mr. *Rous* and the Witnesses went to the *India* House together to have their Letters decyphered:—That as it was Sunday, neither the Chairman nor Deputy Chairman was there, without whose Orders the Letters could not be decyphered:—That he therefore left his Letter with Mr. *Rous* till he could obtain that Permission, and went the next Day to the *India* House, and received from the Chairman the Contents of his Letter decyphered, but was refused any Information of the Contents of the Letter to Mr. *Rous*: And being asked, When he first had any Communication of the Contents of Lord *Clive's* Letter to Mr. *Rous*? he said, He had a Copy of it transmitted to him by Lord *Clive*, by the Packet of the *Admiral Stevens*, the 20th of April: And being asked, If he could enumerate any of those Persons who made Purchases of *East India* Stock, in Consequence of the good Opinion he had declared concerning it, as mentioned in the former Part of his Evidence? he said, He could not; that he understood so, but did not know at what Period, or to what Amount, they purchased; that he conversed generally among his Acquaintance, which at that Time was very large, on the advantageous Situation of the *East India* Company:—That from the Nomination of Lord *Clive* to go Abroad, the Witnesses entertained Hopes that great Advantage would ensue to the Company, and was, in Consequence, a large Stock-holder himself; that he therefore, probably spoke of the advantageous Situation of the Company, before the Receipt of Lord *Clive's* Letter, but that he doubtless spoke more of it afterwards, and was induced so to do by the Contents of that Letter, which were, a Direction from Lord *Clive* to purchase Stock for him, and that therefore the Witnesses could not but conceive it in his Lordship's Idea a beneficial Thing; and he observed, that it was only Twenty Days after the Arrival of Lord *Clive's* Letter, in Cypher, that the public Advices of our being in Possession of the *Dewanee* were received: And being asked, How many Attornies Lord *Clive* had at that Time? he said, Five, to all of whom an Extract of such Part of the abovementioned Letter, as related to the Purchase of *East India* Stock, was communicated:—That their Powers were jointly given, and not separate, so that he could speak with Certainty that no more Stock was bought for Lord *Clive* by any of those Attornies than as before stated, nor any Bargains for the Purchase of Stock made.

And Your Committee find, That Lord *Clive*, Messrs. *Sumner* and *Sykes*, arrived at *Calcutta* on the 3d of May 1765, and took their Seats at the Council on the 5th. And Your Committee, in order to give the House the fullest Information they can of the Transactions of the Select Committee, have annexed herewith, N<sup>o</sup> 84, a Copy of their Proceedings from the 7th of May to the 10th August 1765.

That on the 7th, Lord *Clive*, Messrs. *Sumner* and *Sykes*, assembled as Members of the Select Committee, assuming the whole Power of the Settlement, Civil and Military, and that they administered to themselves and their Secretaries an Oath of Secrecy; that they acquainted General *Cornac* and Mr. *Verelst*, the other Members

Members of the Committee named by the Court of Directors, with those Determinations, and required the immediate Attendance of Mr. Verelst, then at Chittagong, General Corner being at that Time at the Head of the Army in the Province of Oude.

That Lord Clive opened the Committee, by a Letter containing the full Declaration of his Lordship's own Intentions, and his Sense of the particular Duty of the Select Committee (a Copy of which Letter is contained in the 84th N<sup>o</sup> of the Appendix), to which Letter the Select Committee replied at their next Meeting on the 11th (Copy of which Reply is also in the 84th N<sup>o</sup> of the Appendix.)

And Your Committee, thinking the Proceedings of the Select Committee of Bengal, of great Importance for the House to know distinctly, they have divided their Enquiries respecting those Proceedings into the following Heads:

1st. Their Measures they took respecting the Execution of Covenants.

2d. Recalling the European Agents.

3d. Their Examinations into the Nabob's Complaints, and into the Conduct of the Servants concerned therein.

4th. Establishment of the Treaty, purporting to be a Treaty of Peace with Sayab Dowlah, and the Acquisition of the Dewannee.

5th. Establishment and Progress of the Salt Society, and other Matters relative to that Trade.

Your Committee find, That at the Meeting of the 7th, the Select Committee of Bengal resolved to enforce immediately the Execution of the new Covenants, against receiving Presents by the Servants of the Company from the Indian Powers, a Duplicate of which Covenant, and a Duplicate of the Letter from the Directors, of the 1st of June 1764, requiring the Execution of them, arrived on the 24th of January 1765, but had not been at this Time executed by any One of the Company's Servants; nor does Your Committee discover, from the Records, that the then Governor, Mr. Spencer, had publicly brought the Matter under the Consideration of the Council Board; nor had any Notice been given to the other Servants of the Company, that they were required to execute such Covenants.—And Your Committee find, That the said Covenants were executed according to the Direction of the Select Committee; first by the Members of the Council, and the Servants resident on the Spot; and afterwards transmitted to the Army and Factories, where they were also executed; except by General Carnaroe and Mr. Swinton, whose Reasons for not complying are stated in the former Part of this Report.—And in regard to the Transactions of recalling European Merchants, which Your Committee stated as the Second Head of Enquiry, because it followed in Order of Time upon the Proceedings of the Select Committee, it appears that upon the 11th the Select Committee resolved upon the Recall of all Free Merchants residing up the Country, within One Month after Notice; and that Orders were sent to the Chiefs to convey in Safety to Calcutta all who refused to comply; and the Reasons alleged for this Order will appear in the Resolution which is inserted at large in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 84.

Your Committee also find, That another Order was issued at the same Time, for securing and bringing to Calcutta all Europeans who had no Claim, from the Indentures, to any Share of the Company's Countenance and Protection.

Your Committee find, That there are many subsequent Regulations and Orders relative to this Subject, which they will report in the Course of their Proceedings upon the Island Trade, to which they refer.

And in regard to the Proceedings of the Select Committee in Bengal, upon the Examinations of the Nabob's Complaints, and the Answers passed in Consequence thereof, it appears that on the 1st of June the said Com-

mittee consisted of Four Members; viz. Lord Clive, Messrs Sumner, Syke, and Verelst; and that they took under their Consideration a Letter from the Nabob, who had arrived some Time before at Calcutta, complaining of the Conduct of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and of the Gentlemen of the Deputation sent to Muradabad upon the Death of Myr Jaffer, respecting Sums of Money distributed among such Persons as he thought proper, without the Knowledge of the Nabob; and the Select Committee came to the following Resolution: "That Mahomed Reza Cawn, since the Death of the late Nabob, has distributed among certain Persons, near Twenty Lacks of Rupees.—And that it is incumbent upon them to discover to whom such Sums have been paid, and for what Consideration; in order that the most effectual Measures may be pursued, to remedy for the present, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous Consequences which may have arisen, or which may arise, not only to the Country Government, but likewise to the Company, from such Practices." Upon the 6th of June the Select Committee of Bengal appear, by their Proceedings, to have taken under their Consideration a Narrative from Mahomed Reza Cawn, in Answer to the Charge against him by the Nabob, in his Letter of the 1st; and also a Narrative from Juggut Seet, a noted Banker, that Sums of Money had been unduly obtained from him by the Gentlemen of the Deputation mentioned above; and on the 7th and 8th the Committee prosecuted the same Enquiries, by examining Mootaram, Phoulidar of Houghly, and Bussantroy his Servant; and that on the 21st of June the Select Committee came to the following unanimous Resolution: "That Mr. Johnstone has actually received the several Sums, in Money and Bills, specified for his Use in the General Accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet—that he appears, from the Evidences entered in our Proceedings, to have been a principal Agent and Manager in obtaining and distributing the Presents, but unacquainted, they would willingly suppose, with the Menaces used by Mootaram, in his Name, to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Juggut Seet, in order to extort a Sum of Money, from the latter, for the Use of the Deputation—and lastly, that he is guilty of actual Disobedience to the Company's Orders, in arraigning indecently, and refusing positively to acknowledge, the Authority wherewith the Select Committee are invested by the honourable Court of Directors, and by urging their usurped Powers in Excuse for declining any Reply to Charges that so deeply affect his Character.

That Mr. Senior has received all the Money specified for his Use in the Evidence already mentioned, and also the further Sum of 50,000 Rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn on his own Account; but that he neither authorized the Messages delivered by Mootaram, nor was active in obtaining or distributing the Presents.

That Mr. Middleton has received Presents from the Nabob and Juggut Seet only, firmly believing them to be voluntary; and that he always intended to refuse the Present designed him by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

That Mr. Lycester has received the several Sums affixed to his Name in the abovementioned Accounts; but that he neither did nor intended to receive the Bills lodged with Mootaram for his Use, nor was any Way concerned in the Menaces thrown out by that Person to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet; all which is further confirmed by the Oath which he voluntarily took before the whole Board.

That Messrs Playdell, Burdett, and Gray, have each received 50,000 Rupees from the Nabob, in the full Persuasion that the same was a Free Gift to the Gentlemen who then composed the Board, without any Application on their Parts, or Consideration on the Nabob's, for Services performed.

"That

"That Mr. *Cartier* was utterly a Stranger to any Demands made in his Name, and that he would absolutely have refused a Lack of Rupees intended for him by the Nabob, as specified in the above-mentioned General Account of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, had it been ever tendered to him.

"That upon the Whole, the Gentlemen who sat at the Board, as well as those who negotiated at the Durbar, were guilty of actual Disobedience to the Company's positive Orders relative to the Covenants, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving Presents, contrary to the express Letter and Spirit of those Obligations: Yet, to avoid every Appearance of exerting with Rigour the Powers wherewith they are intrusted, or of being actuated by any other Motives than those of Honour and a firm Attachment to the Interest of their Employers,

"Resolved, That the Select Committee leave to the honourable Court of Directors to pass final Judgment; and refer to their Minutes entered in Consultation of the 23d Instant for a Justification of their Proceedings."

And Your Committee find some subsequent Proceedings were held before the Select Committee upon the Subject of these Presents; viz. on the 4th of July, when another Letter or Narrative of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, transmitted by Lord *Clive*, who was then at *Mootehil*, was received; and the Members present, viz. Messrs *Samner, Versell, and Sykes*, thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

"That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has in this Letter related Facts with great Candour and Precision, confirming, in the strongest Manner, the several Particulars set forth in his former Evidence.

"That he positively asserts, and with the greatest Appearance of Truth, that neither the Presents from the Nabob, nor from himself, were voluntary, but granted after some Altercation and tedious Negotiations with the Gentlemen of the Deputation.

"That Mr. *Johnstone* at first desired a very large Sum, but after a great deal of Debate, and many Conferences, *Mooteeram* consented to accept 6,25,000 Rupees, from the Nabob, and 4,75,000 Rupees from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; of which Sums the Whole has been paid by the Nabob, and 2,25,000 by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, in Money and Bills.

"That, over and above 1,37,500 Rupees, which Mr. *Johnstone* obtained from the Nabob, as a joint Member and senior Servant on the Deputation, the same Gentleman stipulated, That 100,000 Rupees for himself, and 50,000 Rupees for his Brother, should be paid secretly from all the other Gentlemen.

"That, besides the above Sums clandestinely obtained from the Nabob, Mr. *Johnstone*, as principal Agent and Manager, thought proper, without the Consent or Knowledge of his Colleagues, likewise to appropriate 50,000 Rupees to himself, and 25,000 to his Brother, out of the Money granted by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, over and above his allowed Proportion as a Member of the Deputation."

And, lastly, the Committee agree,

"That *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter be entered on the Face of their Proceedings, as undeniable Testimony to all whom it may concern, of the Necessity of their Enquiries, the Impartiality of their Proceedings, and the great Lenity of their Resolution, in submitting final Judgment to the Court of Directors; notwithstanding their Conduct has been bitterly censured, their Powers arraigned, their Characters aspersed, and their Authority, sufficient to enable them to proceed, and justify them in Proceeding, to the last Extremity."

And Your Committee, before they enter upon the parallel Evidence relative to this Subject, think it pro-

per to state to the House, That *Mooteeram*, *Phoultier of Houghly*, and *Bessantree* his Servant, mentioned above, were under Confinement at the Time of their Examination.—And in regard to the Persons accused, Your Committee find, That the Proceedings of the Select Committee were laid before the Council, where the Persons concerned had an Opportunity of examining the Charges, and giving in their Answers, which they severally did in their Minutes annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 85; and that by the Desire of the Members of the Select Committee at the Board, the 17th of June, *Mooteeram* was before the Council, on the 18th of June, as appears in the Appendix, 85. But it does not appear that any of them were present, or had been confronted with their Accusers, or heard in their Defence, at the Time the Resolution of the 1st of June passed. Neither does it appear, that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was ever sworn to the Truth of his different Narratives, nor examined in Person before the Committee; nor that *Juggut Seef* was sworn to the Truth of his Narratives; nor do Your Committee find, that the Persons concerned in this last Narrative were made acquainted with the Matter contained therein, at the Time the Committee came to the Resolution of the 4th of July, stated above.

And Your Committee find, That, in Consequence of the Proceedings of the Select Committee upon this Subject, a Report was made to the Court of Directors, in a Letter dated the 30th of September 1765 (a Copy of which Letter is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 86.)

And, in order to elucidate the Proceedings and the Representation thereof, as stated in that Letter, Your Committee examined *William Brighwell Sumner*, Esquire, who being asked, What was his Opinion respecting the Truth of the Information delivered by the Nabob, touching the Presents received by the Deputation and the Council in 1765? said, That with respect to the Presents received by the Deputation, and Governor and Council, on the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlat* to the Government in 1765, the first Information on the Subject, as well as the several Evidences exhibited, came before him officially, and that the Representations thereof to the Court of Directors were made officially.—That under the Variety of contradictory Evidence that appeared before the Committee, however difficult it might be for him to determine, he found himself disposed to confine the Censure wholly to that Part of the Gentlemen's Conduct which related to their not having subscribed the Covenants sent out by the Company, and which, as Members of the Administration, he thought it incumbent on them to have executed, or to have resigned the Service; and that, in his private Correspondence with his particular Friends in the Direction, he confined his Censure entirely to that Part of their Conduct.—That when he was appointed again to the Company's Service, in 1764, he readily acquiesced to signing the Covenants himself; but that a few Days after, when he found that the Court of Directors intended to exclude their Servants wholly from the Benefits of the Inland Trade; which, when he signed the Covenants, he clearly understood they were to be indulged in, and considering it as a new Term of Service, he declared to his Friends in the Direction, that he would resign his Appointment, and that it was his fixed Resolution so to have done, if that new Condition had not been revoked by a Resolution of the General Court, the Result of which was, that the Regulations for carrying on the Inland Trade was referred wholly to the Governor and Council—that, however warm their Representations officially to the Court of Directors may have been, he acknowledged the Circumstances do not now by any Means appear to him in the same Light they then did—that a cooler Examination into the Matter, and a more intimate Knowledge of some of the Parties, together with Informations he had since received, had made him materially alter his Sentiments of such a nature; and that he had not a Doubt of the Pres-

ents being freely and voluntarily given on the Part of the Nabob and *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.—Being asked, If he had ever, and at what Time, been of Opinion, that the Presents were not freely and voluntarily given? he said, He had his Doubts at the Time of the Examination into that Matter: And being asked, Whether the Letters he wrote to his Friends in the Direction were written at the Time he had received Satisfaction of the Presents being freely made? he said, They were—that he was then in Office, but did not acquaint the other Gentlemen in Office with that Change in his Sentiments, nor the Court of Directors, to whom he could not communicate his Opinion in his Capacity as an Individual; but that he mentioned it in his private Letters to Sir *George Amyand* and Mr. *Scrafion*, Two of the then Directors: And being asked, What were the particular Grounds of his Change of Sentiment? he said, A Variety of Information that he had received from different Persons; but in particular, Mr. *Leycester's* Return of the 50,000 Rupees to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, in which, at first, from the Evidence, there appeared some Difficulty with regard to Time, but that it was afterwards fully stated to his Conviction.—Being asked, Whether at the Time of subscribing the Letter from the Select Committee at *Bengal* to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of September 1765, he entertained any Doubts whether the Presents were freely and voluntarily made? he said, That the different Information he had received, from the Time of the Examination to the Time of his subscribing that Letter, had fully convinced him that the Presents from the Nabob and *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, and the Members of the Council, were freely and voluntarily given: And being questioned, he said, There was not any Deceit or unfair Practice made use of to induce him to sign that Letter: And being asked, Whether he thought the Court of Directors, at the Time they wrote their Letter to the Select Committee, dated the 17th May 1766, were convinced that the said Presents were not freely and voluntarily made? he said, He did.—Being asked, Whether the Select Committee received any, and what, Instructions from the Court of Directors, relative to the Presents from *Cassim Ally Cawn* to the Company's Servants in 1760? he said, The Court of Directors did transmit some Instructions on that Subject while he was an acting Member of the Committee; that he could not recollect the precise Purport, but believed they directed an Enquiry: And being asked, Whether, upon the Receipt of those Instructions he disclosed to the Select Committee the Presents he had himself received at that Period? he replied, That the Instructions, to the best of his Recollection, were received by the Committee early in August 1766, when his State of Health was such as rendered him utterly incapable of attending to any public Business from about the Day of the Receipt of that Letter to the 23d of August; and that he did not attend the Committee above Once or Twice from the 23d of August to the 28th of November, the Day on which he resigned the Service, being incapable of attending at all: And being asked, He said the public Letter of the 30th of September 1765 was drawn up by Mr. *Campbell*, Secretary to the Select Committee, and read to the Committee at the Time of their signing it—that he was at that Time sensible that some Parts of it were contrary to the Sentiments he had expressed in his private Letters to his Friends, of nearly the same Date—that he had received sufficient Conviction for himself, but had not before him the full Proof of those Matters which he thought would have been likely to operate to the Conviction of the other Gentlemen of the Select Committee; that he foresaw, after the Conclusion they had come to at the Time the Examination was before them, and from the Records of which those Representations were made, that an Attempt to alter the Ideas which were adopted would involve him in endless Al-

tercations, without producing any Good; and that he considered that he was doing as much Justice to the Gentlemen themselves, by his private Representations to his particular Friends in the Direction, as he could have done by any Dissent he could have made on the Spot, which probably would not have in the least altered the public Representations, and might have subjected himself to many disagreeable Consequences—that there are many Points and Situations in the public Affairs, wherein a Man must yield a Part of his own Judgment to the prevailing Influence, and in order to preserve Unanimity, which Disposition influenced the Conduct he had observed on this Occasion: And being asked, What he meant by prevailing Influence at that Time? he said, A great Majority in the Committee.—Being asked, If he thought himself authorized to subscribe, in his official Capacity, Opinions not his own? he answered, That it was the constant Practice of the Service, with the Exception of entering Dissents upon the Proceedings—the Reason he did not enter his Dissent is given in the preceding Answer: He further said, That it was the express Order of the Court of Directors, that every Man should sign all public Letters, entering his Dissent, if they thought proper, to any Part they disapproved: And being further asked, If he had ever ventured to enter a Dissent upon the public Proceedings? he said, He had, upon Two or Three Occasions; and particularly the Paragraph of the next Letter from the Select Committee, dated the 31st of January 1766; and the Paragraphs 21 and 22 would shew the Censure he received.—Being asked, Whether he thought *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* being appointed Prime Minister could be agreeable to the Nabob? he said, It certainly could not; but that if the Appointment of him was improper, or the Nabob placed in a Situation too much under his Influence, it was in the Power of Lord *Clive* and the Select Committee to have displaced him, and to have given the Nabob what Degree of Authority they thought proper: The Witnesses considered his Appointment proper, and the Degree of Power given to him necessary.—That Lord *Clive* and the Committee esteemed his Conduct irreproachable, during his short Administration, and that he was confirmed by them in his Office, with some Diminution of Power, by the Association of *Juggut Set* and *Roy Dullah*: And being asked, Where *Nadim ul Dowlab*, in the Treaty with Lord *Clive*, the 30th of September 1765, expresses his perfect Reliance on *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, if he thought the Nabob was any more satisfied by *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Appointment under that Treaty, than under the Treaty made by the Deputies the May preceding? he said, He believed both were equally disagreeable to him: That the Appointment of *Nandomar* was the most earnest Wish the Nabob had at all Times: He disbelieved that Part of the Evidence of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to the Select Committee, respecting the Presents to the Gentlemen of the Deputation.—He said that he apprehended he gave them voluntarily, having apologized to Mr. *Cartier*, by an express Declaration, for the Conduct he had observed on that Examination in giving false Evidence; from which the Witnesses believed he accommodated his Evidence to the Times.—That the Evidence with respect to *Juggut Set* remained unanswered; and that, from the Evidence of *Mosteram*, there still appears some Indelicacy in the Negotiation in that Point: That *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Declaration was made about June or July, and previous to the sending away the Public Letter, being himself acquainted with it at that Time.

And *Ralph Leycester*, Esquire, being examined in regard to that Part of the foregoing Evidence, wherein Mention is made of a Letter from Mr. *Cartier*; and being questioned, Whether he had any Letter from Mr. *Cartier*, informing him that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had apologized to him for having given false Evidence to the Select Committee, concerning the Presents re-

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ceived by the Gentlemen of the Deputation at the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*: He said he was extremely sorry to find that any private Letter to him had been mentioned to the Committee, as he esteemed the Production of private Letters, without the Consent of the Writers, to be very improper; and he declared it was totally without his Concurrence.—That he received various Letters from Mr. *Cartier* on the Subject of Presents, on the Conduct of the Select Committee, and *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; but that, with regard to the Letter referred to by Mr. *Sumner*, he could not venture to assert the Receipt of One in the Terms mentioned by Mr. *Sumner*; and that he could not say he believed he ever did receive a Letter from Mr. *Cartier* to that Purport.

Your Committee then examined *Harry Verelst*, Esquire, who being asked, If any Quorum was prescribed for the Select Committee? said, That the usual Quorum was Three; but that the Select Committee did not lay down any Rules for themselves. Your Committee then read the Select Committee Proceedings of the 21st of December 1766; on which Day the 1 and 1-8th per Cent. was continued to Lord *Clive* till the September following his leaving the Government, and the unappropriated Share of the Salt Trade was assigned to Mr. *Harry Verelst*.

And Your Committee found, That only Two Members were present on that Occasion; viz. Lord *Clive*, and Mr. *Verelst*; but that General *Carnac* desired his Name to be added.—And Your Committee also found, That on the 10th of August, when the Salt Society was established, there were only Two Members present; viz. Messrs. *Sumner*, and *Verelst*.—And Mr. *Verelst* being asked, If it was usual for the Committee to proceed without more than Two Members being present? he said, It was not; but that it was customary for every Member who was upon the Spot to attend: And being asked, Whether Mr. *Sumner*, who was President at the Select Committee on the 4th of July 1765, ever suggested to him, or any other Member of that Committee, that he believed the Presents before mentioned were freely and voluntarily made? he said, He never did.—That the Committee were unanimously of Opinion to the contrary.—That he never heard Mr. *Sumner* intimate the least Doubt of the Veracity of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Narrative, or what he alleged in the Letter read at that Committee, during his Stay in India, nor since, till the Second Day before the Time of this present Examination.—That the Witness never had any Cause, either then or since, to suspect the Veracity of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Evidence, or that of the other Witnesses, all of whom were desired by the Committee to consider with the utmost Caution every Matter, and to be careful to adhere strictly to the Truth, without any Exaggeration.—Being asked, Whether he thought, that if *Buffant Roy*, and *Meesteram*, who were Two of the Witnesses examined by the Committee, had not been put under a Guard, they would have endeavoured to escape or abscond; and whether it is the Custom in India to place Guards or Peons over Persons wanted to be examined, if there is a Probability of their absconding? he said, It was always usual to do so; they having none but armed Men to employ on all those Occasions.—That without that Restraint, *Buffant Roy* and *Meesteram* very possibly might have attempted to have made their Escape, because they might have had some Intimation of the Matter about which they were to be examined, and might think themselves liable to the Censure of the Committee for having been employed in obtaining the Presents:—That, in his Opinion, no Rique of Censure they might apprehend themselves to be in, would induce them to give a partial Evidence.—That they confessed all that they could apprehend being charged with, which he attributed to the natural Aversion of the *Hindus* to

Examinations upon Oath, and which they would on all Occasions willingly avoid.—That their Evidence against the Gentlemen who had received Presents did not in any Shape exculpate themselves; and that the Oaths of the *Hindus* are held as sacred by them as the Oaths of any other People whatever.—Being asked, Whether he credited the Nabob's Representation of the 1st of June, alleging that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had distributed the Money without his Knowledge? he said, That it appeared in June, before the Date of the Nabob's Letter, that the Nabob had given him an Order under his Hand, or Hand and Seal, for distributing the Money.—That in this Instance he deemed the Nabob wrong in his Representation, and could easily account for it, by attributing to *Nundcomar* the drawing up of that Letter for his Highness.—That he had no positive Proof of it, but was led to think so by *Nundcomar's* being generally about the Nabob's Person, and employed in his private Concerns: And being asked, Whether he thought the Presents from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and the Nabob, were obtained from them against their Consent? he said, He must declare, as an honest Man, that he believed they were: And being asked, Why he joined in recommending Mr. *Middleton*, who had received a Part of those Presents, as a fit Person to be continued in the *East India Company's* Service? he said, He did it from a long Knowledge of him, and a thorough good Opinion of his Principles: And being asked, he said, Mr. *Middleton* is the next in Succession to the Government of Bengal at this Time; and that he blamed him very much for taking any Share of those Presents; but that after his being thoroughly convinced of the Impropriety of his Conduct in that Affair, and having offered to give Security for the Repayment of the Money, in case the Law determined the Matter against him, and its being the only Fault he ever knew him guilty of, he did esteem him a proper Servant for the Company: And he farther said, That the whole Matter relating to the Presents was communicated to the Council Board before the Committee wrote their Letter to the Court of Directors: And being asked, If he thought Mr. *Middleton* was capable of making a Declaration under his Hand, to the Select Committee, that was not strictly true? he said, No; nor does he recollect any Circumstance relating to Mr. *Middleton*, which led him to believe so; and the Letter from Mr. *Middleton* to the Select Committee, 18 June 1765, and the Resolution thereupon, being read, the Witness said, He believed the Contents of that Letter were strictly true: And being asked, whether he communicated *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter, or any Part of it, before the Committee came to the Resolutions of the 4th of July? he said, *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter of the 23d of June is entered on the Committee Proceedings of the 4th of July following, where the Resolutions of the Committee stand recorded; and he therefore supposed that the Letter was not communicated to the Gentlemen of the Board prior to those Resolutions; and the Oath by which the Committee were bound not to communicate their Proceedings to any Body till they had been laid before the Council, being read, he said, He remembered an Alteration in that Oath, and, to the best of his Recollection, the Distinction was, that according to the Oath, as it first stood, Secrecy was to be kept till the Proceedings were laid before the Board; and that in the additional Clause the Words were, "Or with the Approbation of the Committee;" and that, as he believed, the Alteration in the Oath was made at the Beginning of his Government in 1767: And being asked, If *Nundcomar* was dissatisfied with the Treaty concluded by the Deputies? he said, He did not know: And being asked, If the Nabob was dissatisfied with the Appointment of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*? he replied, He could not say: And being asked, If *Nundcomar* was the



the Minister before the Appointment of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*? he said, He could not tell; that he was in a distant Country, and had no Correspondence with the Court: And being asked, Who *Nundomar* was? he said, He is a *Gentoo*; that he knew nothing of him except seeing him with the Nabobs; that he could not delineate who or what he is; that he knew nothing of his Life in Life; that he has been generally employed by, and attending on, the Nabobs: And being asked, If his Character was good or bad? he said, He had heard various Opinions respecting his Character, but could not pretend to say what might be the general Opinion: And being asked, Who was *Buffant Roy*? he said, He thought it appeared on the Records, that he was one employed by *Mooteram*, who was nominated to the Foudary of *Hooghly*: And being asked, If *Mooteram* was connected with any of the Gentlemen in the Deputation? he said, From the Information the Committee received, it appeared to them he was an Agent of Mr. *Johnson*.

Your Committee examined General *Carnar*; who said, that Mr. *Sumner* having expressed a Difference of Opinion from what appears to be his on the Select Committee Proceedings, respecting the Presents made on the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, he thought it incumbent on every Member of that Committee to state the Grounds of his Opinion; and expressed his Satisfaction at being able to produce Testimony of what were his Sentiments long before the Meeting of that Committee, as to the Measure to be pursued on the Death of *Myr Jaffer*; in Confirmation of which he referred Your Committee to certain Letters and Papers relative to that Matter; which being read, he further said, that knowing the Arrangement of the Ministers, as made by the Gentlemen in the Deputation, to be wholly repugnant to the young Nabob's Wishes, and that he could not but be highly dissatisfied with having a Regent set over him, who had the whole executive Power, under the odious Appellation of Naib Subah, and that the Person appointed to that Office was particularly obnoxious to him, it was impossible he should think that *Nudjum ul Dowlah* would make, with a good Will, Presents to those who were the Instruments of such an Appointment: That as to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, there was no Reason for his being displeased—That his Ambition must have been highly gratified by the Exaltation to so eminent a Post—That the *Seets* were not in the Mode of making Presents, neither was there any, Instance, as the Witnesses remembered, of their having made any, before this Period; and that they were not desirous of holding Offices under the Government, which would rather have been an hindrance to their principal Occupation as Bankers: And being asked, Why the Naib Subah was odious to the young Nabob? he said, The Appointment of a Naib Subah, which implies the Person in whom the whole executive Power is lodged, carries with it an Idea that the Prince, under whom he is appointed, is incapable of governing; and that the Gentlemen who effected the Revolution in 1760, in favour of *Myr Cossim*, have asserted, that nothing was originally intended except appointing him Naib Subah: And being asked, If the Confirmation of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* in his Office was not as odious to the Nabob in his First Appointment? he said, He was certain that the having *Mahomed Reza Cawn* as his Minister, in any Shape, was disagreeable to him; but that the Thing being once done, it would not perhaps have been to advantage to have made any material Change therein: That the Appointment was certainly rendered less disagreeable to the Nabob, by changing the Appellation of Naib Subah, which was particularly odious—That his main Objection to the Proceedings of the Gentlemen who formed the Treaty, was their forcing Ministers upon the Nabob, who had been exceedingly

obnoxious to the deceased Nabob, and were equally so to the young one, his Son: And he further said, That he objected to the Article which gave a Power to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, that in his Opinion ought to have been withheld—That he approved of the Article in the Treaty which established the Succession; but did not think the Deputation was necessary, for that *Nudjum ul Dowlah* having been appointed Chuta Nabob, he was of Course in the regular Form of Succession, and became Nabob on his Father's Death; always supposing that he would receive Confirmation of the same from the King. Then the 5th Section of the Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read to him; and being asked, Whether he meant thereby to impute any Blame to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, and the Governor and Council, for having raised the natural Son of the deceased Nabob to the Subahdarree, in Prejudice to the Claim of his Grandson? he said, He had before given his Opinion on that Subject; and that he did not mean to be understood, that by putting his Name to that Letter, he agreed to every individual Article contained in it, but that he subscribed his Assent to the general Tenor of it—That it was his Duty to have signed it, entering a Dissent if there had been any Parts so materially contrary to his Sentiments as to have rendered it necessary—That to his Knowledge *Roy Dullub* was very much disliked by the Nabob; and that the *Seets*, who were by no Means ambitious Men, would gladly have dispensed with the Share in the Government that was given them: And being asked, Whether the Arrangement made by the President and Council, before the Arrival of Lord *Clive*, prevented his Lordship and the Select Committee from making any Arrangements they thought proper? he said, That the Succession, as settled by the Deputation, being once established, could not have been set aside without the Appearance of a Revolution.—Then being asked, How he reconciled the Assertion in the Letter, that not a single Rupee was stipulated for the Company, with the Acknowledgement that he had before made, that Five Lacks per Month were stipulated for the Company? he said, That his Idea therein referred merely to the Solicitations for Presents from the Nabob, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and *Juggut Seet*, for the Individuals of the Council, without any Consideration to the Company, who, if Presents were to be solicited, had a better Right to them; but that he did not think the Company had any Title to more than they got: And being asked, If the Company got all they were intitled to, wherein their Interest had been sacrificed? he said, By the Neglect of an Opportunity that might have offered, if the Majority of the Committee had judged it prudent and advisable to adopt a different Mode of Succession.—Then the 8th Paragraph of the said Letter being read, and the Witnesses being asked, If he knew of any Money being received on the Accession of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, from opposite Parties and contending Interests? (which are Words used in the said Paragraph) he said, He understood that *Nundomar*, as well as *Roy Dullub*, had been offering Teeps on all Quarters, to secure to themselves the principal Share of the Ministry; but that he did not know that they were received, or that any Promise was made them that they should have the Place assigned to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.—And being questioned, Whether he thought they were received?—he answered, He did not; that he believed he could produce several Letters of the Gentlemen concerned, acknowledging the Offers: And being asked, Whether, at the Time of signing the General Letter, he thought the Evidence he had heard, relative to several Lacks of Rupees procured from *Nundomar* and *Roy Dullub*, justified the State of that Fact, as drawn up in the General Letter? he said, He thought there must have been some Founda-  
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dation for what appears to have been so strongly asserted; and that in regard to the last Paragraph of the said Letter, there was a Lift given in by *Nundcomar*, which he saw, and to the best of his Belief it was written both in *English* and *Persian*; and he does not know that *Nundcomar* was brought before the Committee and examined respecting that Lift: And being asked, What was the Character of *Shah Azam*? he said, He was a Man of muddling Understanding, owing to his Confinement, which deprived him of any great Opportunity of improving himself; but that he believed him to have been rather a good Man than otherwise: And being asked, Why he said, in the Letter from Lord *Clive* and himself to the Select Committee, entered on the Select Consultations, 12 August 1766, That it was not for the Company's Interest or Honour to maintain any Connection with a Man of so weak an Understanding, and to very deficient in every Principle of Honour? he again said, That it does not necessarily follow, from his subscribing to any Letter, that he attended to every individual Article of it; that there never would be any Letters sent, if all the Parties to it were to be unanimous with respect to the Whole.

Your Committee then called *Franis Sykes*, Esquire; who being asked, Who drew up the Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors, dated 30th of September 1765? said, That it was drawn up by Mr. *Campbell* the Secretary, and that he, the Witness, neither drew up or altered any Part of it: And being asked, What Part of the Political Conduct of the Governor and Council of Bengal he meant to find fault, in the Second Paragraph of the above Letter? he concurred with General *Cornac* in disapproving the Appointment of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* with such extensive Powers; and added, that he blamed the Gentlemen who settled the Treaty with *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, for omitting the Opportunity they then had of constituting a Fund adequate to the Expenses the Company were obliged to be at in protecting the Country—That the Revenues were left too much at the Mercy of Individuals, and he thought the natural Effect of those Arrangements would be to put the Nabob in such a Situation as to enable him to withhold the necessary Payment to the Army, which whenever he did pay, it was with Reluctance—That he disapproved of making the Concurrence and Approbation of the Governor and Council necessary to the Appointment and Dismission of the Nabob's Officers, and objected to the Appointment of *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to the Mufnud, in Preference to *Myr Jaffer's* Grandson; particularly as the Grandson had been declared the legal Heir and Chuta Nabob in the public Durbar, by *Myr Jaffer*, in the Presence of the Witness, in the Year 1760, soon after the Death of the Nabob *Myr Jaffer's* Son, *Meeram*; which Transaction he said must appear upon the Company's Records—That there were 4 or 500 Officers of the Government present at the Ceremony, and that he received a Dreis on the Occasion: And being asked, What Fact he could mention to shew that the Gentlemen of the Deputation received considerable Sums from *Nundcomar* and *Roy Dullab*, to appoint them to the Employment intended to be bestowed on *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, as stated in the 8th Paragraph of the Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765? he said, He could not recollect the Particulars of that Affair; but that *Roy Dullab* did complain, that a Teep or Teepts were procured from him; besides which, he complained of Mr. *Burdett*, in particular, and desired to have his Teep returned, which he believes was refused; and believes other Complaints were made: And being asked, If he knows of any Promise made, either by the Governor and Council, or the Deputation, to *Nundcomar* or *Roy Dullab*, that they should be appointed to the Place which had been promised *Mahomed Reza*

*Cawn*? he said, He did not recollect any one Fact; that a Promise was made, but it appeared to him at the Time they were both struggling for the Appointment: And being asked, Whether, at the Time of signing the General Letter on the 1st of October, he had any positive Proof of the Facts he asserted therein, and did not now recollect, relative to the Presents from *Nundcomar* and *Roy Dullab*? he said, He does not recollect, but dares to say, that at the Time of signing it Facts did appear, sufficient to ground the Paragraph upon—He did not recollect that the Particulars relating to it were ever recorded, and he did not acquaint any of the Gentlemen accused with these Circumstances: And being asked, What was his Opinion respecting the Facts asserted in the Nabob's Letter to the Governor and Council of 1st June 1765? he said, That with respect to the Money which he complains to have been taken, which appears upon the Company's Records, he believes the Fact to be true. The following Paragraph in the Nabob's Letter being read; viz. "After this, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* arrived, and sat as Naib, He, for the better establishing himself in the Naibship, above Twenty Lacks of Rupees has distributed among such People as he thought proper, without my Knowledge"—and the Witness being asked, If he believed it to be true? he said, As to the Fact of that Paragraph, he could not depend upon it: And being asked, If that Paragraph had been true, respecting the Twenty Lacks of Rupees taken by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* from the Nabob's Treasury, without his Knowledge, he should have thought him proper, though irreproachable towards the Company, to have continued Minister for the Company in the Receipt of the Dewannee? he said, He had no Idea that they were taken without his Knowledge; that they were taken contrary to his free Will and Pleasure, the Witness did believe; but as his Conduct appeared to him irreproachable, with respect to any Act in which he was concerned relative to the Company, he should have continued him in his Office: That that Part of the Nabob's Letter, complaining of his Poverty, and asserting that he had not Money enough to pay his Expenses down to *Calcutta*, was not true; for that he knew that he had at this Period Twenty Lacks of Rupees at *Calcutta*, by the Report of his own Cashier: And being asked, he said, He thought that the Nabob's Letter was dictated by *Nundcomar*: And being asked, If, when he signed the Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors, on the 30th of September 1765, he believed that the Presents mentioned in that Letter were freely and voluntarily given? he said, That those from the Nabob never were given with his free Will and Consent; and that those given by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* certainly were, for he told him so; and that those given by *Juggut Set* were given under the same Circumstances as the Nabob's: And being asked, Whether any Charge was given to the Witnesses examined by the Select Committee on the Nabob's Complaint? he said, That the Charge, to the best of his Remembrance, was this—when the Matter of the Nabob's Complaint came before Lord *Clive* and the Select Committee, his Lordship desired the Witnesses would not attend to any Interest whatever, divest themselves of all Party and Faction, and give to the Select Committee the whole Truth, and nothing more: And being asked, Whether *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was examined, or brought in a written Narrative ready translated to the Committee? he said, He was questioned by Lord *Clive* and several Members of the Committee, upon a Visit, a Day or Two previous to his being brought into the Committee; but he believes without any Thing being put upon Paper—That at that Meeting the same Charge, with respect to speaking the Truth, was given to him as was always given to all the other Witnesses—That upon the Nabob's Letter of Complaint, Lord *Clive* expressed

pressed great Uneasiness at seeing the Nabob so much pleased, and mentioned, as the Witnesses thought, to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, that in Consequence of the Nabob's determined Resolution to obtain Justice, he could not, consistent with his Duty, avoid enquiring into it, and laying it before the Select Committee; that his Lordship hoped, when that Matter came to take Place, that those who were particularly concerned would do Justice to all Parties—That there was no regular Meeting, nor any Examination, then, or except when there were regular Meetings of the Committee—That in Consequence of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* having Ideas, that he should be called upon to answer for his Conduct in this particular Affair, he drew up a Narrative and brought it to the Committee, which Narrative the Witnesses believed was drawn up between that Meeting and the Day that he was examined at the Committee, and translated by a Black Man hired for that Purpose: And being asked, If *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was sworn at his Examination? he said, That he did not recollect: And being asked, If *Juggut Seet* was sworn? he said, He believed not—that when he was examined, Lord *Clive* desired him to be attentive to adhere to the Truth; and he said with warmth in Answer, that he had put his Seal, and that that would go for a Crore of Rupees: And being asked, If Mr. *Sumner* ever publicly or privately informed him, that he had changed that Opinion, relating to the Presents, which he had given upon Record? he said, Never till the Day before his Examination before this Committee.—Then the last Paragraph of the Supplement of the Letter from the Select Committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read, and the Witnesses being asked, What were the Circumstances relative to the Information therein contained? he said, That the Fact, as it appeared to him, was, that *Nandcomar*, did make such a Representation to the Governor and Select Committee, just before the Departure of the *Admiral Stevens*; and that a List was delivered in, specifying the different Sums the Gentlemen were supposed to have been benefited—that the Business of the Settlement taking up the Attention of the Select Committee, he understood, prevented any immediate Inquiry into the Charge laid by *Nandcomar*: That the Report still prevailing, and many Gentlemen giving Credit to it, and the Witness going to the City in the Month of March 1766, he did ask *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and other Officers belonging to the Nabob's Treasury, Questions relative to this Transaction; and though *Nandcomar* did insist to the very last, that it was a Fact, the Witness said, He verily believed, from every Light and Intelligence he could gain, that the Whole of the Accusation contained in that Paragraph was base and false: And being asked, If the Disbelief of that Accusation was made known to the Court of Directors? he said, He did not know that it was: And being asked, If it was customary for the Gentlemen of the Select Committee to sign Letters as the Secretary drew them up, without Examination of each particular Paragraph, and Conviction that they were just in every Part? he said, That all Letters signed by the Select Committee were always produced to them by the Secretary, were read to them, and if there was nothing material to cause a Dissent, there was an Acquiescence to the Majority. The Witnesses further added, with respect to the Presents given by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, as a further Reason why they were voluntarily given, That the Gentlemen, to whom the Presents were made, had raised him to the utmost Pitch of his Ambition, and that he told the Witness he had given the Presents with his own Free Will—That, to the best of the Witness's Recollection, this was said by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to him in common Conversation, about a Year after the Event; that he never had any Conversation with Lord *Clive*, or any other Gentleman of the Committee, upon that Subject from that Time to this: And being

asked, Whether he had given an Opinion on the 4th of July 1765, in Consequence of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter of the 23d of June, That he had asserted, with the greatest Appearance of Truth, that neither the Presents from the Nabob himself were voluntary, but granted after some Altercation and tedious Negotiations with the Gentlemen of the Deputation, and which Opinion had been transmitted to the Court of Directors, he did not think it his Duty to have acquainted them likewise with the above Confession? he said, That when he signed that Opinion, it appeared to him that the Assertions therein contained were true; and that the Conversation which passed between him and *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, wherein he contradicted those Assertions, being at a long Time after the Transaction had taken place, it never occurred to him to give Information of it to the Court of Directors: And being asked, Whether, when he discovered the Baseness and Falsity of *Nandcomar's* Representation, as mentioned in the last Paragraph of the Supplement of the Letter of the 30th of September 1765, he acquainted Lord *Clive*, and the other Gentlemen of the Committee, with his Discovery? he said, He was certain he did mention his Ideas on that Matter to the Gentlemen of the Committee, as well as many others—that he did not make the above Discovery till March or April 1766; and that he did not know, that the Select Committee ever acquainted the Court of Directors with it, it being a Matter he was only desirous of knowing for his own Information, to invalidate private Assertions at *Calcutta*: And being asked, What Distinction he found in Favour of Mr. *Middleton*, to induce him to recommend that Gentleman to the Favour of the Court of Directors, and even to disobey the Orders of the Court, to commence a Prosecution against him, while he wrote so strongly against the other Members of the Deputation? he said, That Mr. *Middleton* was at a subordinate Station, and that the Receipt of the Covenants from their Superiors were unknown, or at least had not been publicly tendered to him—that he deemed the Gentlemen who resided at *Calcutta* more culpable than Mr. *Middleton*, because they were the Agents for the Company, and it became their Duty to put the Covenants immediately into Execution—that at the Time of the Deputies setting out, Mr. *Senior* was at a subordinate Situation at *Cassimbazar*, and Mr. *Johnstone* was Resident at *Burdwan*, but upon the Nabob's Death, was called to the Seat at the Board at *Calcutta*: And being asked, What Distinction he made between Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Senior*, in their Claims to the Company's Favour? he said, He had an Opportunity of knowing the public Conduct of Mr. *Middleton*, but not that of Mr. *Senior*—that the Plea respecting the Presents allowed Mr. *Middleton*, equally favoured Mr. *Senior*; but that Mr. *Middleton* had declared himself ready to give Security to answer any Demands the Company might have upon him, which he did not understand that Mr. *Senior* did—that Mr. *Leycester*, upon being informed, that the Presents received from *Juggut Seet* were not with his free Will and Consent, immediately returned his Share of it to him, and that on the Tender of Return being made, *Juggut Seet* applied to the Witnesses at *Muxadabad*, to know what he should do—that he told *Juggut Seet*, if the Present was given with his free Will and Consent, he would allow Mr. *Leycester* to enjoy it, if not, that he should receive it back; which he accordingly did, and asked the Witnesses whether he supposed any other Gentlemen would follow his Example: And being asked, Whether, when he mentioned that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* said he had given the Presents voluntarily, he understood that they were given unasked, or granted after some Altercation and tedious Negotiation with the Deputies? he said, They were certainly asked for; and that if *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had not received the Place of Minister to the Nabob, in the Room of *Nandcomar*, or some other Appointment equal to his Wish, he did not believe he would

would have made any Presents with his free Will and Consent.

And to enable the House to form further Judgment upon the Evidence given to the Select Committee of *Bengal*, Robert Gregory, Esquire, a Member of Your Committee, and conversant in the Customs of *India*, was asked, From the natural Disposition of the Natives of *Bengal*, what Credit could be given to the Evidence of an Officer in the Country Government, when seized and surrounded by Military Guards? and he said, He could give but very little Credit to an Evidence so given—that he apprehended a Native of that Country, examined under Apprehensions of his own Safety, would give the Evidence that would tend most to his own Advantage. And he further informed Your Committee, that if there is any Thing criminal likely to come out against the Man, and a Place of Refuge near at Hand, he supposed there was a Necessity in *India* of using a Force to detain him, otherwise not—that in Point of Custom of the Country Government, they generally used Violence, and brought Witnesses to the Place where they wanted to examine them; but that it had not been customary in our Settlements.

And in regard to Oaths among *Gentoos*, the Witnesses said, he believed, under the Form of Oath delivered to the *Gentoos*, their Testimony is to be depended upon as well as others, though there have been Instances in which they have been found guilty of Perjury; and that he does not know any Instance of *Gentoos* having quitted their Habitations upon their being called on as Evidences; and that without their Lives or Effects were in Danger, or their Calt taken from them, he did not apprehend they would.

And Major Grant, who had been resident in *India* nearly Seven Years, being examined to the same Point, confirmed the Opinion of the foregoing Witness, relative to the small Degree of Credit to be given to Natives of *Bengal* examined under a Guard: And being asked, Whether he would disregard the Evidence of the Natives of that Country, though given under the Forms of Oaths which are reckoned most binding, according to the different Sects? he said, That under the Circumstances already mentioned, of Confinement, and the Dread of Consequences, he should not pay that Regard to their Evidence that he otherwise should, unless there were other concurring Testimonies to enforce it: And being asked, What Regard has generally been given to the Evidence of Natives of all Sects, when called upon at a Court Martial to give Evidence in Cases of Life and Death? he said, He had never seen any Instance of that Kind before a Court Martial, but imagined the Court would pay every Deference to an Evidence, where it appeared there was no Influence or Interest in View; that he had never sat on a Court Martial, though he had occasionally attended the Court in *Calcutta*, but never the Trial out—was never present at any Instance of a Witness being examined under a Military Guard.

And Your Committee find, by the Proceedings on the Trial of *Ram Churn*, which were read, That the most solemn Manner of swearing Witnesses, according to the *Gentoos* Religion, is with *Toofy* and the *Ganges* Water upon the Cow's Back, and the Oath being administered by a Bramin from *Golgott*.

And General Carnac being questioned to the same Point, said, It was customary, with respect to the Natives of *India*, to place Guards or Pcons over Persons who were to be examined; that there were no Ministers of public Justice, but armed Men; and he thought it necessary to place a Guard over *Mooleram*, because he was under Accusation: That in regard to Oaths of *Gentoos*, he believed, from their superstitious Zeal, and their strong Attachment, even to Martyrdom, to their ancient Rites, they are held very sacred.

It appears further, from the Evidence of Mr. Sumner, that *Mooleram* was examined under a Guard, as the

Witness understood, by Direction of Lord Clive, on an Information he had received of his having the Bills and Money Transactions, mentioned above, in his particular Care; and that he was seized to prevent his Escape.

In regard to the political Transactions, propoed to be considered under the 4th Head of the Proceedings of the Select Committee of *Bengal*, Your Committee found, That on the 5th of June 1764, the Select Committee taking into Consideration many Attempts which had been made to destroy the Unanimity, and corrupt the Integrity, of the Members of the Committee, both separately and jointly, by the Nabob, through the Influence of *Nundcomar*, and other ill-disposed Persons, who were admitted into his Preference, Resolved, That all Intercourse with the Nabob, his Ministers, and the Country Powers, be maintained and conducted by the Right honourable the President, as the most effectual Method to convince those ill-disposed Persons, that no Motives of private Advantage, no Desire of increasing their Fortunes, can ever seduce the Members of that Board from the Duty they owed themselves, the Confidence they reposed in each other, or the steady Resolution they had formed to pursue every Method that tended to promote the Company's Interest, and the Peace, Property, and Happiness of the Country.

And Your Committee took Occasion, from what appeared upon the above Resolution, to call Francis Sykes, Esquire, a Member of the House; who being desired to state to the Committee, in what Manner the Nabob, through the Influence of *Nundcomar*, had endeavoured to corrupt his Integrity, and that of the other Members of the Select Committee, said, That when he was sitting at the Board, soon after his Arrival, he was called out by a Servant to speak to *Nundcomar*, who was in a Room contiguous to the Apartment where the Committee sat; that he, of himself, propoed to the Witness, to secure to the Governor and Select Committee 25 Lacks of Rupees, if they were inclined to listen to his Terms, without mentioning what those Terms were; but the Witness said, he conjectured the Conditions he meant were to supplant *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the then Prime Minister—That he told *Nundcomar* he had better go and mind his Business, and immediately left him, to attend his Duty in the Committee:—That Nobody was present at this Conversation—That *Nundcomar* did not say whether it was to be his own Money, or the Nabob's, whose Name, the Witness believed, was not mentioned at all—That on his Return to the Committee, he mentioned *Nundcomar's* Proposal to Lord Clive, who said he was a Rascal, and had better go about his Business—That the Witness never after, either directly or indirectly, knew any Thing more about the Matter—That *Nundcomar's* Political Character was very bad, but that the Witness said he had no Doubt, that if he had been made Prime Minister, he would have had it in his Power to have fulfilled the Proposal.

And in the Political Transactions referred to under this Head, Your Committee mean to comprehend the Conclusion of the War with *Sujab Dowlab*; the Establishment of the Country Government, after Lord Clive's Arrival in *India*; the settling of the Peace with *Sujab Dowlab*; the Grant of the Dewannee, and of the Four Northern Sircars; and the Reversion of Lord Clive's Jaghire to the Company, upon the Expiration of his Lordship's Term therein. And first, with respect to the Conclusion of the War, Your Committee refer to Letters from General Carnac, the Commander in Chief of the Army; by the last of which Letters, dated the 26th and 27th of May, contained in N° 84, heretofore annexed, the former inclosing a Copy of a Letter from *Sujab Dowlab* to General Carnac, and the General's Answer; by which the Select Committee found that *Sujab Dowlab*, as his last Resource, had thrown himself on the Generosity of the English, and was at that time actually

actually in Camp, ready to receive such Terms of Peace as they should prescribe; which appearing to the Committee a favourable Opportunity for establishing the Tranquillity of the Country on a permanent Foundation, they resolved that Instructions should be sent to General Carnac for settling the Preliminary Articles with *Sujah Dowlah*, which they sent accordingly—That the Select Committee, on the 21st of *June*, gave Instructions to Lord Clive, as entered in the Select Committee Proceedings, Copies of which are hereunto annexed; and the Select Committee, on the same Day, taking into Consideration the Youth, Inexperience, and Incapacity, of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, the Nabob of Bengal; the Necessity of placing the Administration in the Hands of Men capable to support the Weight of Government, and attached to the Company's Interest; and likewise the great Danger that might arise to the Stability of the then Establishment, from suffering the whole Powers for the absolute Management of the Three Provinces to rest in a single Person; resolved that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* be advised to relinquish the Title of Naib Subah, and also a Part of the unbounded Authority wherewith he was invested by the late Treaty, as a Measure not only agreeable to the Nabob, but necessary to the Safety of the present Government, and the future Tranquillity of the Country: The further Reasons for this Resolution, and the Appointment of other Ministers, appear in the Select Committee Proceedings of that Day, a Copy of which is annexed: And Your Committee refer the House to the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 84, wherein are contained the Regulations of the Three Provinces of Bengal, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, in Conformity to the above Resolutions.

That on the 7th of *July* the Select Committee observing, by a Letter from Lord Clive, dated the 3d Instant, that their Plan, formed with a View of giving Stability to the Nabob's Government, by dividing the Administration equally between *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Juggut Seet*, and *Roy Dullub*, was in Danger of being subverted, through the Ambition of the latter, and the excessive Moderation or Timidity of the former, they gave Instructions to Mr. Sykes for the Regulation of his Conduct at the Durbar, as appears in the Proceedings of the Select Committee, 7th *July* 1765, which are contained in N<sup>o</sup> 84 of the Appendix.

And Your Committee find, by reading a Letter from Lord Clive, dated *Mootejil*, 9 *July*. That the Nabob, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Roy Dullub*, and *Juggut Seet*, had at that Time signed the above-mentioned Regulations for the Three Provinces, and that his Lordship had obtained the Sunnud for the Reversion of his Jaghire, in Perpetuity to the Company, conformable to the Terms of his Agreement with them before he left *England*; which he forwarded to Mr. Sumner and the Council, and at the same Time mentioned, that Sunnuds for confirming the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah* Subah of the Three Provinces were to be obtained from the King, and that this would be a favourable Opportunity for procuring Sunnuds for the fresh granted Lands about *Calcutta*, and likewise for the *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong* Countries in Perpetuity; and that he had been desired by the President of *Fort Saint George*, to obtain Sunnuds for the Four Northern Provinces or Sircars, which his Lordship deeming a Matter of great Importance, determined to make a Point of, observing at the same Time, that as the Nabob intended purchasing the King's Favours at the Price of Five Lacks of Rupees, his Lordship did not doubt that all the Sunnuds required on the Company's Account would be afforded gratis.—Your Committee find, by a Letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee, dated *Great Gauger*, 11 *July* 1765, hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 87, That amongst other Matters, the Nabob, on his Lordship's Representation of the great Expence of such an Army as would be necessary to support him in his Govern-

ment, to defray the large Sum due for R<sup>e</sup>stitution, and to the Navy, together with the annual Tribute which was of Necessity to be paid to the King, had consented that all the Revenues of the Country should be appropriated to those Purposes, 50 Lacks of Rupees a Year for himself excepted; out of which Sum all his Expences of every Denomination, including Cavalry and *Sepoys*, were to be defrayed. That Lord Clive left the Particulars of the above Propositions to be settled by Mr. Sykes, if the Select Committee should approve of it.—That on the 28th of *July* Mr. Sykes informed the Select Committee, by a Letter of that Date, that the Nabob had agreed to accept the annual Stipend of 53,86,131 *Sicca Rupees per Annum*, and to make over the Management of the Subahdarree, with every Advantage arising from it, to the Company; that out of the above Stipend he was to allow 2,76,000 Rupees a Year, to the different Branches of his Family—That these Payments were to be made by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Roy Dullub*, and *Juggut Seet*, monthly; who were also to have the Payments of all the Nabob's Troops, Servants, &c. And that the Select Committee, by their Letter of the 10th of *August*, expressed their Approbation of the above Regulations; but desired Mr. Sykes to reserve the Ratification of them to Lord Clive and the Select Committee. Your Committee have annexed herunto, N<sup>o</sup> 88, a Letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the Select Committee, dated *Benares*, 3 *August* 1765, stating the Particulars of the Conference they had had with *Sujah Dowlah*, and the Terms which they had offered to him for the Treaty of Peace; and also a Copy of the Letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the Select Committee, dated *Ilahabad*, 12 *August*, N<sup>o</sup> 89, acquainting them with the Negotiations between them and the King, and the Terms which were then settled between them on the Grant of the Dewannee to the Company. And Your Committee find, by another Letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the Select Committee, of the 20th of *August*, That the Treaty of Peace was concluded; but that *Sujah Dowlah* having expressed the greatest Reluctance at consenting to the 8th Article of the Treaty, and having frankly confessed, that the Encroachments of the *English* in Bengal, with regard to Trade, and the great Abuses and Exactions committed by the Company's Servants, and others countenanced by them, made him apprehensive of the Consequence in his Dominions, and had expressed to such Uneasiness about the Word Factories, that they had at last agreed to leave it out of the Treaty; and suggested the Propriety of even withdrawing the Factory at *Benares*, as soon as the Company's Engagements with *Burwan* should expire. That on the 7th of *September* 1765, Lord Clive resumed his Seat at the Select Committee, and laid before them an Account of his several Negotiations with the Country Powers, during his Absence from the Presidency; viz. The Treaty of Peace with *Sujah Dowlah*—the Royal Grant of the Office of the Dewannee of Bengal, and *Babar*, and *Orissa*—the Grant of the Reversion of Lord Clive's Jaghire to the Company in Perpetuity, on the Expiration of his Lordship's Term therein—the Confirmation in Perpetuity of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong*, and of the 24 *Pargannahs* of *Calcutta*, which had been formerly assigned to the Company, by the Nabob *Ahr Jaffer*—the Confirmation of the Company's Possessions in the Neighbourhood of *Madras*, &c.—the Grant of the Northern Sircars in Perpetuity—also the Articles of Agreement with the King, for the due Payment of the 26 Lacks of Rupees per Annum to his Majesty, and the Agreement with the Nabob for the annual Stipend, as above stated, to be paid his Excellency for the Support of the Nizamut. Copies of all which are hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96.

And Your Committee then read a State of the Revenues

venues of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*, and the Northern Sircars; Copies of which are also herewith annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 97.

And the Opinion of the Select Committee with regard to the Conduct of Lord Clive and General Carnac, in the afore said Negotiations, being fully expressed in their Letters to those Gentlemen of the 7th of September 1765, Your Committee have annexed herewith Copies of both the said Letters, N<sup>o</sup> 98 and 99.

And Your Committee find, by the Select Committee's Letter to the Court of Directors, 30th September 1765, and from Lord Clive's Letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th September, Paragraphs 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, and 15, and from his Lordship's Letter to the Court of Directors 28th November 1765, a Copy of which is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 100, written chiefly in Cypher, and sent over Land, that full Information was given to the Company of all the above-mentioned Negotiations, together with the Observation of the Select Committee, and of Lord Clive, upon those important Events.

And Your Committee find, by a Letter from Lord Clive to the Council, 11th June 1766, that *Sujab Dowlah* on that Day discharged the Whole of the Treaty Money.

Your Committee refer to the 5, 17, 18, and 19 Paragraphs of the Company's separate Letter to *Bengal*, dated 24th December 1765, herewith annexed, containing the Opinion of the Court of Directors upon the Conduct of the Company's Servants, in the Course of the War against *Cossim Ally Cawn*, condemning the Demand which had been made of the *Goffpore* Country, and the Intention of conquering *Sujab Dowlah's* Country for the King, requiring them to adopt some System which might clearly mark out the Barriers of the Country Government and ours, and ordering the strictest Enquiry to be made, whether any Contributions had been exacted by the Servants from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, on his Succession to the Subahship.

Your Committee have annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 101, an Extract from the Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated 19th February 1765, containing the further Opinion of the Court of Directors upon the Treaty with the King, upon the Measures pursued on the Death of *Jaffer Ally Cawn*, the Appointment of Independent Duans, together with their strictures upon the Treaty with the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah*.

Your Committee refer to the House to the 58th Paragraph of the General Letter from the Governor and Council of *Bengal*, dated the 12th of November 1761, containing their Reasonings for refusing the Offer of the Dewannee of *Bengal*; which Your Committee find were approved of by the Court of Directors, in the 55th Paragraph of their Letter to *Bengal*, dated 9 March 1763, both of which are herewith annexed.

Your Committee then requested the Right honourable the Lord Clive to say, Whether, in his Opinion, the Grant of the Dewannee was really a Grant from a Prince, who from his Situation at that Time might be supposed capable of bestowing such Concessions; or whether it was an Instrument executed as a Piece of Form, which his Lordship thought it expedient to take from Political Motives.—His Lordship referred to the Public Records of the Company, wherein his Sentiments on that Subject are entered, as well as a Description of the then Situation of the Mogul: And being asked, If the Mogul had any Troops at that Time, and to what Number? he said, Some Thousands; and in regard to Lands or Revenues to pay them, he believed he was in Possession of *Ilalabad*; and that *Sujab Dowlah*, and many Princes of the Country, made him large Presents: And being asked, If the Mogul was at that Time wholly dependant on the Bounty of the *English* for Protection, and even Subsistence? he said, He did not know that the *English* afforded him any Subsistence at that Time, nor till the Articles of Peace were settled with *Sujab Dowlah*; when the Treaty was made that

he should have particular Possessions, and a certain Annual Stipend—that he certainly expected Assistance from the *English*; but that if he had been disposed to ask for Assistance from other Powers, all *Indostan* was open to him, and particularly the *Marattas*—that the Mogul was not in the Power of the *English* Army at the Time he granted the Dewannee, but was his own Master, to do as he pleased, though his Power in *Bengal* was totally annihilated: And being asked, Who put the Mogul in Possession of *Ilalabad*? he said, The Company did; and that he did not know of his having any other Possessions at that Time; and could not say whether, as the Time was so short, he had collected any of the Revenues of the Place, or made any Arrangements of Government, from the Time he was put in Possession of it, to the Time of granting the Dewannee: And being asked, If the Mogul could have refused the Grant of the Dewannee, provided the *English* had insisted upon it, without risking his own Ruin? he said, It was certainly his Interest to grant it to the Company, who might have taken it without his Consent; whether they would have done so his Lordship could not say.—That there was still so much Respect for the Great Mogul, that the independent Nabobs applied to him for their Confirmation; which Confirmation is generally attended with considerable Presents from the Princes so confirmed, who give them to the Person they apply to as Mogul: That at the Time of granting the Dewannee the Mogul was at *Ilalabad*; that his Son was then reigning at *Delhi*, but always acknowledged he acted under his Father; but his Lordship could not say whether the Father acknowledged the Son to be his Delegate: And being asked, If he could particularize any Nabob who made Presents on Application for Confirmation to the Mogul at *Ilalabad*? he said, *Nudjum ul Dowlah* did.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, who being asked, If the Mogul, when he granted the Dewannee, was in such a Situation as to induce him to suppose it was a voluntary Grant, and that he was in Possession of such Authority as could enable him to do it? said, That *Shah Alum* was really to all Intents and Purposes the Great Mogul, as much as any of his Predecessors; in Proof of which, the Witnesses said, The two great Honours annexed to that Dignity he enjoyed equally with his Predecessors; viz. the Cootba, or Prayer for him as King, was universally read, and Money coined in his Name, throughout the whole Empire—that since the Invasion of *Nadir*, the distant Provinces have been very deficient in their Payments of the Royal Revenues; but that to his certain Knowledge the complimentary Nazars or Presents were sent to *Shah Alum* by the neighbouring Provinces; and, as he believed, the Province of *Delhi* paid a Yearly Allowance to his Son, who resided there as his Delegate—that there is no Doubt but the *English* might have forced the Grant of the Dewannee from the Mogul, if they had thought it prudent or just so to do; but that such a Proceeding would have excited a general Odium against the *English* throughout all *Indostan*, and that no such Force was imposed on him—that he gave it voluntarily, and had offered it to the Witnesses before—that his Interest was now concerned in the Grant, for there was secured to him a much more considerable Annuity than would probably have been paid him by any Nabob—that the Mogul had been in the Hands of *Sujab Dowlah*, who had made use of the Royal Name to collect the Revenues from the adjacent Provinces; but that upon the Defeat of *Sujab Dowlah* he again surrendered himself to the *English*, and was by them invested with the Provinces of *Korah* and *Ilalabad* in full Sovereignty—that at the Time of granting the Dewannee his main Dependence was upon the *English*—that a Part of the Company's Troops were attending him at *Ilalabad*, and that he never was without some of them while the Witnesses remained in the Country;

for that the Mogul was jealous of *Sujab Dowlab*, and would have been very uneasy without them.

To complete their Enquiries upon this Head, Your Committee find, by a Letter from Lord *Clive* and General *Carnac* to the Council, dated 30th April 1766 (Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 102) That the First Poona for *Bengal*, since our becoming possessed of the Dewannee, was held on the preceding Day, the Forms of which were approved of by the Company, as appears by the 15th Paragraph of their Letter to the Select Committee, 16th of March 1768, as follows:

"The Forms established by Lord *Clive* at the Solemnity of the Poona should in future be observed; and when the Governor is not present, the Resident at the Durbar must represent the King's Duan."

And Your Committee finding from the Records of the Company, relative to the last Period of their Enquiry, that Orders had been issued from the Court of Directors to enquire particularly into the Circumstances of the Death of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, a Report prevailing that he had been poisoned, they desired Mr. *Sykes* to relate what he knew upon that Subject; and he informed Your Committee, that to the best of his Remembrance, when Lord *Clive*, General *Carnac*, and several other Gentlemen, were on their Way to *Paina* in 1765, his Lordship proceeded from *Muxadabad* to a Garden called *Seradbaug*—That the Nabob being desirous of waiting on his Lordship at the Garden, the Witness accompanied him thither, where he staid till 10 or 11 o'Clock at Night; that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was also present, and that his Excellency complained then very much of being indisposed, and the Witness advised him to return to the City, and not expose his Person to the Cold, he having, as it appeared to him then, an Ague Fit on him; and that he went to his own House accordingly—That the Witness hearing the next Day, upon Enquiry, that he was worse, went to see him, and found that he was confined to his Bed in a high Fever—that he continued growing worse Three or Four Days, in which Time the Witness made him Two or Three Visits—that his Excellency, the Third or Fourth Day of his Illness, sent Word he should be glad to see him—that he went accordingly, and on his Arrival found him delirious and convulsed—that he remained very near him till he died, which was about Two Hours after his Arrival—that he heard some Rumours, from the Presidency at *Calcutta*, that he had not fair Play, or that he was brought to an untimely End, or something to that Purpose; in Consequence of which he applied to the Mother, to know if she entertained any Idea of that Nature; that she assured him she did not, and that, if there had been any Suspicion in the Nabob's Mind, he would certainly have mentioned it to the Witness; that he never heard any Person at the City throw out any Idea of Suspicion upon that Subject; that, as he believed, Mr. *Vereft* mentioned in a private Letter, that there was such a Rumour in *Calcutta*, and that it was levelled at Lord *Clive* and the Gentlemen in Administration by their Enemies: And being asked, Whether the Nabob eat or drank any Thing at the Garden, to which he imputed the sudden Increase of his Disorder? he said, He believed he drank some Ice Water, which, as he was ill before, was certainly not proper for his Situation; and that he does not recollect there was any Entertainment, but what the Nabob brought with him for his own Family—That the Nabob was not guilty of any particular Intemperance at that Time; but that he believed an irregular Way of living, a gross Habit of Body, and Fondness of Women, hastened his Death.—And being asked, Whether he considered the 24th Paragraph of the Letter from the Select Committee of the 8th of September 1766, to the Court of Directors, a Copy of which is herewith annexed, as a proper Account of the Death of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*? he said, He should have subscribed it, except with respect to his Eating,

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not being a Judge how far he was intemperate in that—that the Nabob had the Venereal Disease to a very severe Degree, and that when he visited him in his Illness, he imputed his approaching Death both to the Fever and the Venereal Disease—that he had been ill Three or Four Days, when he visited Lord *Clive* at *Seradbaug*, and had a Fever on him at that Time—and that he took the Ice Water himself: And being asked, If any Individual benefited by his Death? he said, He believed not; but that the *East India* Company did, in that they took the Opportunity of reducing the Allowance that was made for the military Establishment of the former Nabob, by reducing it from 55 Lacks a Year to Rupees 41,81,131.

Your Committee then examined General *Carnac*, a Member of the House; who being asked, If he knew any of the Circumstances of the Death of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*? he said, That as he was going up the Country in May 1766, he went through *Muxadabad*, where the Nabob was very ill—that he waited on his Excellency, and found him in so violent a putrid Fever, that he used every Argument to prevent his going to take Leave of Lord *Clive*, who was then a few Miles beyond the City, at *Seradbaug*—that to the great Surprise of the Witness he came thither, and in a very few Days after he heard of his Death; at which, knowing the dangerous Situation in which he left him, and he being of a gross Habit of Body, he was no Way surprized—that he did not remember any particular Intemperance he was guilty of at that Time, but that he was a very intemperate young Man: And being asked, If he knew any Instance of a Nabob, or any other Person of the Country, being put to Death by the English, except in Battle? he said, He did not; and that there is no Instance of Wars being carried on, in any Part of the World, with more Humanity than those in *Indostan* against the Natives: And being asked, What is a Fever affecting the Nose? he said, A particular Kind of putrid Fever, commonly in that Country called the Ava Fever, and which is said to be attended with an Itching at the Nose; and that the Nabob had intimated to the Witness such Complaint.

And Your Committee find, by the Letter from Mr. *Sykes*, to the Council at *Fort William*, dated 8th of May 1766, That the Nabob died that Day—and by a Letter from Lord *Clive*, and General *Carnac*, to the Council, of the 9th of May 1766, that he died of that Sort of Fever that affecteth the Nose, and is generally supposed incurable.

Your Committee proceeded next to enquire into the Rise and Progress of the Salt Society, and of other Matters relative to that Trade, and they have closed their Evidence thereupon; but finding it impossible to arrange and transcribe so extensive a Proceeding before the Records, they have reserved it for a future Report, which they will lay before the House with all possible Dispatch.

But Your Committee think it expedient, before they dismiss the above Proceedings, to take Notice, that the following Papers, which they thought necessary for their Inspection in different Parts of their Enquiry, were not to be found; and in enumerating the said Papers, Your Committee have given their Reasons why it appears to them they ought to have been upon the Company's Records.

Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, 23d June 1765, in the *Persian* Correspondence, N<sup>o</sup> 119, wrote in Answer to one from Lord *Clive*, because he recapitulates the Substance, and says, He was honoured with his Lordship's Letter; and further says, That his Lordship desires he would immediately acquaint him, whether the Distribution of the Money was made by the Nabob of his own free Will, or by me, or by the Directions of any other Persons.—Lord *Clive's* Letter, to which

it evidently refers, is not entered on the Correspondence.

Letter from the Nabob *Nadjum ul Dowlah*, 24th June 1765, N° 120, is evidently wrote in Answer to one from Lord *Clive*, acquainting the Nabob of its being fixed in Council, that Mr. *John Johnstone* should continue no longer in the Service.—The Letter to which it refers is not entered.

N. B. These Two last Letters are not entered in the regular Courle of the Correspondence, but are brought in a full Month after the Date of their Receipt, and entered posterior to Eight other Letters received in that Interval.

Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, N° 101, acknowledges a Letter from Lord *Clive* to him, and recapitulates the Purport thereof; viz. That he should have accompanied the Nabob to *Calcutta*.—The Letter of his Lordship is not entered.

Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, 18 May 1765, N° 102, referring to a Letter received from Lord *Clive*; in which Letter *Mahomed Reza Cawn* says, He hopes to be with his Lordship in Three or Four Days; and concludes, saying, “ And then with regard to what you mention in your Letter, I will give you a full Account of all Particulars.”—His Lordship's Letter not entered.

Letter from the *Burdwan Raja*, 23 May 1765, N° 105, acknowledging he had the Honour to receive his Lordship's Letter, in Answer to his Address.—His Lordship's Letter not entered.

Letter from the Nabob *Nadjum ul Dowlah*, 9 June 1765, N° 109, acknowledging the Receipt of a Letter from Lord *Clive*—but his Lordship's Letter does not appear.

Letter from Lord *Clive* to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, 22 July 1765, N° 35, of Letters sent; wherein his Lordship acknowledges the Receipt of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter, in answer to One he had wrote him; and adds, that he did well in preventing his Excellency from writing an improper Answer on the Subject of the Money.—Neither Lord *Clive's* Letter, nor *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Answer, acknowledged by his Lordship, appears to be entered.

And Mr. *Johnson*, a Clerk of the India House, who has attended Your Committee during the Courle of their Proceeding, being examined; said, Mr. *Morton* and he had searched very diligently, in Consequence of their being asked for, some Time ago, by a Member of the Committee, but cannot find them; and apprehended they were never entered:—The Books in which they ought to have been entered were received in August 1766.

And Your Committee likewise think proper, at the Close of this Report, to inform the House, That through the Whole of their Proceedings, they have taken the Part to receive Information from every Person disposed to give it; and in putting of Questions, not to insist upon an Answer, which any Persons declined to make.



# A P P E N D I X.

## N<sup>o</sup> 1.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

ON Tuesday last his Excellency the Nabob went in Grand Procession from his Encampment to the Kella, in the City, and there received the usual Salammoe.

In Order to remove, as much as lay in my Power, the Sentiments which the People were possessed of, that the *English* were not his Friends, I had the Honour to accompany him on the same Elephant; and on his Arrival in the Kella, presented him with the Keys of the City Gate.

The next Day *Raja Ramnarain*, attended by a single Peon, found his Way into that Part of the Kella where his Excellency was sitting, notwithstanding he had been before denied the Presence. Upon this abrupt Entrance, *Raja Rajabullub* was immediately dispatched by his Excellency to desire I would get him away from thence; for as he would not retire by Order of the Nabob, his Excellency apprehended, if he forced him out, it might be deemed by some that he had broke his Engagement, which he is determined to observe inviolably; upon this I sent for him to meet *Rajabullub* at the Factory, who told him he was ready to sit, on the Part of the Nabob, to examine the Books of the Sircar; and delivered the Raja a List of those Books he wanted to inspect, requiring, at the same Time, the Attendance of Three Persons who were in *Ramnarain's* Service.

After much Altercation on both Parts, and finding no Probability of a Compliance on the Part of the Raja, I read to him your Honour, &c.'s Instructions to me, under Date the 6th Instant, relative to him, and told him, by not sending the Books of the Sircar wanted, together with the People, he would lay your Honour, &c. under the disagreeable Necessity of withdrawing your Request to the Nabob to preserve his Honour; hereupon he promised to send the Books that Evening, but, according to Custom, this he evaded.

Patna, the 31st July, 1761.

Yesterday, agreeable to Appointment, *Raja Rajabullub*, accompanied by *Rajahs Nobutrey* and *Seiterman*, with the Servants belonging to their different Departments, arrived, and the Raja met them here without Books or Servants; being again and repeatedly asked for the Books, he sometimes said he had none, at other Times they were coming, and that many of them were among the Books he sent into the Factory about Six or Seven Days ago. On having those Papers brought up and inspected, they said they were nothing to the Purpose; being then asked for the Three Servants, whom the Nabob said could give us an Insight into the State of the Sircar, he replied he would not let them appear without my giving him Assurance their Honour should be safe; for he suspected a Design to punish them, even to the Loss of Life, if they did not make such Confessions as were agreeable to the Nabob. Upon this I told him, this was no Cutcherry; that I interfered now in adjusting the Accounts, in Consequence of his Excellency's particular Request; but, since he entertained such an Opinion of me, I would have nothing more to do in his Affairs; and to make this Declaration I was the rather induced, as it appears very plainly to me, he will never deliver in the Accounts demanded of him, till he is turned over to the Nabob's Cutcherry; for, whilst he finds your Honour, &c. are Mediators with the Nabob, not to dishonour him, he knows he cannot be obliged to comply; and under this Sucker the Nabob must go without the Accounts.

I remain with great Respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,

N<sup>o</sup> 2.

To the Honourable *Henry Vansittart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

which *Raja Ramnarain* held under him in this Province.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
**T**HIS waits on you to advise, that his Excellency Yesterday appointed *Raja Rajabulab* to the Post

I am, with great Respect,  
 Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
 Your most obedient humble Servant;  
*Patna*, 2d August, 1761. *W. McGwire*.

N<sup>o</sup> 3.

Letter from Governor and Council of *Fort William*, to *William Hey*, Esquire, Provincial Chief at *Patna*.

S I R,  
**W**E have received your Letter of the 21st Instant. If *Ramnarain* should settle his Accounts with the Nabob, he will of Course be at Liberty, wherever his Interest or Inclination may lead him; if on the contrary he has not yet settled his Accounts, we think we have interfered long enough, and do not mean to encourage him in his obstinate and perverse Dependence on our Protection; in such Case, therefore, we direct that he be delivered over to the Nabob's Cutcherry, there to be made to give an Account of his Administration, according to the Laws and Customs of the

Country; the Patience which the Nabob has already had, together with what the President writes to him further, gives us Reasons to be satisfied, that he will not do any Violence to *Ramnarain's* Person.

As the Nabob represented to the President, that *Shitabroy's* coming down to *Calcutta* will be detrimental to his Affairs, we think it may be dispensed with, and the necessary Enquiries be made of him before Mr. *Ellis* and the rest of the Council at *Patna*.

We are,  
 31 August, 1761. S I R,  
 Your loving Friends!

N<sup>o</sup> 4.

Letter from Mr. *McGwire* to Select Committee.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
**E**VER since the Receipt of your Instructions to the Colonel and me, I have used my Endeavours to bring about the Adjustments of the Accounts of this Subahship, conformable to the Plan your Honour, &c. transmitted to us; and am concerned to say, hitherto without being able to succeed: The *Rajah* promises to deliver them in daily, but gives me to understand, the Accounts for Two Years were lost in his Battle with the Prince, and that he is necessitated to have Recourse to the Recollection of himself and Writers for the forming the greatest Part of them; in short, he seems to me to build his Hopes of Success in Delay, whereby he expects to weary out his Excellency's Patience.

Thus, when the Accounts are delivered in, you may easily conceive how liable they will be to Objections, since they are to be formed by a Man whom every one allows to be backward and evasive.

The only Method which appears to me, if your Honour, &c. shall continue determined to support him, to come to a true Knowledge of his Accounts, is to suspend him from his Office, at least during this Scrutiny; by which Means those who have it in their Power to give proper Insights into his Transactions will not be intimidated from giving their Assistance, whilst his Authority is dormant.

But, Gentlemen, I request your Permission to come more immediately to the Point. We have thought it necessary to confer the Subahship of the Three Sircars on *Myr Cossim*, under certain Articles, and therein have

agreed not to protect his Servants, which Agreement is mutual. He is come up here to put this Province upon a better Footing than it was before, and is at no less an Expence than Eight Lacks per Month, which on Account of Arrears due to his Troops, it is not in his Power to reduce at present: He has not collected any of the Revenues since his Arrival, nor will he be able, whilst the Country People observe his Power so limited, that he cannot turn out and put into Power those whom he may think proper; thus he remains inactive, his Debts increasing, and, in all Probability, will be thereby reduced, by cruel Necessity, to as bad a Stage as *Mier Jaffer* was before the Revolution.

I know well the principal Argument for supporting *Ramnarain* has been his Attachment to the *English*; but this does no where appear from his Actions; nay, I am certain the contrary will be evident, when the Whole of his Conduct is nicely examined into; that he is evasive and unfit for the Government, I believe my Predecessor will allow; Where then is our Merit in signing a Treaty with *Myr Cossim*, whereby such manifest Advantages arise to the Company, if we break it on our Parts, by attempting to support a Man in every Respect obnoxious to him; so obnoxious, that he has been necessitated to make at least a Shew of Friendship with *Raja Rajabulab*, a Man who, from having been his Competitor for the *Dewanee*ship, and misferrying therein, can never be in his real Interest, any more than that of the *English*?

As we have made him Nabob, we ought surely to support him, so long as he behaves worthy of it, and not drive him to some Act of Rashness, which few besides himself would, in my Opinion, have so long restrained from; for what must his Situation be with such a

Rabble of an Army, who find him to have no Weight or Authority?

I am, with Respect,  
Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Patna, 21 June 1761. W. McGwire.

N° 5.

Extracts from Governor Vansittart's Letter to Mr. McGwire, dated 18th June 1761.

IF the Committee's Orders of the 17th of last Month had been complied with, every Thing had been settled before now; they plainly implied a Suspension of *Ramnarain's* Authority while the old Accounts were under Examination; and that the Collection of Revenues, and, in short, the entire Administration, should be left to the Nabob. It is not easy to make People understand what they are unwilling to execute; however, I think the present Orders cannot be mistaken, either on the Subject of the *Patna* Province and *Ramnarain* in particular, or the Nabob's Administration in general—They are addressed to Colonel Coote only, with an Order to consult with you, for the Reasons therein

mentioned. I send you inclosed a Copy of this Letter, the Contents of which you may communicate to the Nabob; and deliver him that which I send under this Cover to his Address.

The News by the *Hawke* you have no Doubt had from your other Friends. The Company's Letter is only upon general Subjects, mighty smooth and fair; but many private Letters to me and others say, that they are extremely offended at the Letter from Home, per *Royal George*, and that all who signed it are to pass under their severest Censure; I hope for many Reasons it will not be so.

N° 6.

Extracts of the Governor and Company's Letter to Mr. McGwire, dated the 26th June 1761.

WITH respect to *Ramnarain*, it will be necessary to be more particular:—Colonel Coote is already directed to assist the Nabob, so far as to suspend him, *Ramnarain*, from his Government until the Accounts are settled, and to put the Nabob's People into Possession of all the Revenues. This you will conform to, and let him be brought to an Adjustment of his Accounts by

such Measures as the Nabob shall think proper. The President has wrote to him so strongly in Favour of *Ramnarain*, so far as regards his Life and Honour, that we are persuaded the Nabob will not be desirous of carrying his Resentment for his ill Behaviour to any such Length.

N° 7.

Extracts of a Letter from Mr. Hey, the Provincial Chief of *Patna*, to Governor Vansittart, dated 28th August 1761.

I Have had the Honour of receiving your Letter of the 12th Instant, addressed to *William McGwire*, Esq; or the Chief for the Time being.

The Nabob, before the Receipt of your Letter, was resolved not to demand any Account at all from *Ramnarain*, or even receive Seven Lacks of Rupees which he had offered him for to clear his Account; I told him that I was surprized that he would not receive the Sum offered, as he intended not to trouble *Ramnarain* any further for his Account. He answered me, that as he had not settled the Accounts of the Province with *Ramnarain*, it might be looked upon as an Extortion if he received it, and desired me to write his Resolution to the Board, which I accordingly did, under Date the 21st Instant. He is now determined to have the Account; but says, he will proceed in such a Manner as not to hurt the Rajah's Honour. This I am in Hopes he will

be enabled to do, as *Ramnarain* tells me he will do every Thing in his Power to satisfy the Nabob, which I have been continually persuading him to do, as the only Means to save his Reputation. The *Seapoys* Guard that was placed at the Rajah's House by Mr. McGwire, at the Request of the Nabob, has been taken off, and a Number of *Hircarrahs* and *Chuddars* are now placed round the House, with a small Guard under one of the Nabob's principal *Zemindars*, which *Ramnarain* desired, after he found the *Seapoys* would be continued with him no longer. In this Situation the Nabob tells me he shall let Things continue for Three or Four Days, by which Time he supposes *Ramnarain* will have sufficiently reflected, that he can receive no Protection if he continues not to render him a proper Account, and then send to him for his Accounts; which if he does not deliver or agree to settle, he will send People to search

for them in the House. This is the present Situation of this Affair, and as I think *Rannarain* will no longer refuse the Nabob what Satisfaction it is in his Power to

give, in regard to the Accounts, and observe the Nabob's Moderation, I am in great Hopes their Accounts will be soon settled to your Satisfaction.

## N° 8.

Extracts of a Letter from Mr. *Hay*, Provincial Chief of *Patna*, to Governor *Vanfittari*, dated 7th September 1761.

I Have had the Honour of receiving your Letters of the 26th and 29th ult.

The Nabob some Days ago gave *Rannarain* a Beetle, on his giving a Paper to him, in which he says, It is impossible for him to give the Accounts of the Province; but consents and promises Fifty Lacks; Twenty-five of which are to be paid immediately in Money, and in Bonds, to Zemindars in the Nabob's Service (who will accept them) the other Twenty-five Lacks the Nabob informs me are to be rather as a Security for *Rannarain's* future

good Conduct, than as a Bond he expects to have paid. As yet there has been nothing paid; *Rannarain* has always pleaded Poverty to me; but I think he would hardly have signed such a Paper as this, without intending to perform what he has agreed to in it. The Nabob in this Affair, though he was obliged to proceed in such a Manner as a good deal to frighten *Rannarain*, has, I think, paid the greatest Regard to your Recommendation in regard to his Life and Honour.

## N° 9.

Extract of the Governor's Letter to Mr. *McGuire*, dated 30th December 1761.

I Have received your Favour of the 18th, with Mr. *Walmough's* Letter inclosed; I was in Hopes of hearing that he had arrived at *Patna*, as he was dispatched from hence the 22d September. On the 14th October, I dispatched to you, under Charge Mr. *Menzie*, 16,400 M<sup>ts</sup> of Salt, which, with the 20,000 M<sup>ts</sup> by Mr. *Wal-*

*mough*, is the Whole of what arrived safe at *Calcutta*, out of the 40,000 which I promised to send on our joint Account. I have read a Letter, acquainting me that Mr. *Menzie* was at *Sicbamanny* the 8th December; as soon as I can get the Account, Charges of the Salt from *Jagelle*, it shall be sent you.

## N° 10.

Extract of Mr. *McGuire's* Letter to the Governor, dated 28th July.

THE Raja has of late taken it into his Head, that if he can gain me to his Interest, his Affairs must succeed: I told him very ingenuously, though from his Behaviour he had no Right to expect it, that I would give him Advice, which if he would follow, he would be convinced was the only Means left for rendering him Service; and that was by advancing such a Sum to his Excellency, joined to proper and public Submissions, as would restore him to his Favour; that he might be assured there was no other Means left whereby he could succeed; for, however he might be spirited by People (who preferred their private Interest to the Public Good) to act in a contrary Manner, he would find his Error when too late for Remedy. I presume this had some Weight with him, for I found him in Waiting at the Nabob's Tent last Night; but do not know at this Time whether the Nabob admitted him to an Interview or not.

The Nabob told me, That upon his Arrival some of

his Zemindars came to him, and said, If the *English* are your Friends, why don't you put an End to these Disturbances by Decollation; when the Raja is no more, you will find they will only have then your Interest to consult — He is now in your Tent, and it may be easily done. I represented to him, a Step of this Nature would not only forfeit my Friendship for him, but would immediately make you as much his Enemy as ever you was his Friend — That these Steps, which the Raja had taken to injure him with the *English*, would prove in the End of real Service to him, by shewing him to the World a Man of Moderation; and that his Innocence must appear more conspicuous, by patiently bearing up against those Indignities at present, than by removing the Raja; which would confirm to the World, his Enemies had some Grounds for acting in this Manner; and that by a little more Patience he would find you would extricate him out of his present disagreeable Situation.

N<sup>o</sup> 11.

Extracts of Mr. *McGuire's* Letter to the Governor, dated 31st July 1761.

**A**DDITIONAL to what I wrote the Board, I am to acquaint you, that the Raja stayed with me some Time after the Departure of *Rajabullab*, and said there was no Way left for him ever to get into the Nabob's Favour, unless his Excellency could be brought to a Compromise. I told him his Excellency had acquainted me, he before demanded of him either the Books of the Sircar, or a Crore of Rupees; he said he had no Money, but if the Nabob would restore him to his Government, he said he believed he might be able to raise Twenty-five or Thirty Lacks. I told him his Excellency was determined to give the Kelaut of *Patna* to *Rajabullab*; but waited only for a lucky Day; but as you had recommended him to the Nabob, I would use my Endeavours also to get him into the Nabob's Favour, provided he empowered me to mention an handsome

Sum; and that after he had obtained a Clearance for what was past, he would give the Nabob a true State of the Revenues of the Province, to prevent his being imposed on by any future Naib: He entreated me to propose a Sum; and after frequent Requests for this Purpose, I thought he could not propose a less Sum than Eighty Lacks; he then pleaded his Poverty, and said he would endeavour to raise a Lack; I begged him to apply to some one else to speak to the Nabob on his Behalf, for that I could not mention a less Sum than I proposed, without running manifest Risque of losing the Share I had in his Excellency's Confidence; at last he proposed giving Five Lacks, which, if once restored to Favour, he believed he could have Interest enough to raise; and thus we parted; however I expect him again To-morrow.

N<sup>o</sup> 12.

To the honourable *Henry Vanstittart*, Esq; President and Governor, &c. &c. Council at *Fort William*.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
**O**N Receipt of your Honour, &c. &c. Orders of the 10th Instant, I applied to Mr. *McGuire* for the Instructions he had received from you for his Conduct in Affairs with the Government; and have received from him your Letter to his Address, dated the 26th June 1761: I shall make it my particular Care to follow your Orders therein contained. I Yesterday waited on the Nabob, who, after some Conversation with me about the Difficulty he had met in settling his Accounts with

*Ramnarain*, told me, and desired I would write to your Honour, &c. &c. that he was come to a Resolution not to trouble *Ramnarain* any further about them, or ever make any Demand on him hereafter; and further, that he was now at Liberty, either to remain here at *Patna*, or go out of the Province, or to *Calcutta*; but that he should be better pleased if he chose the latter, and hoped it would be agreeable to your Honour, &c. &c. I am, with the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Patna, August 21st 1761.* *W. Hay.*

N<sup>o</sup> 13.

*Fort William, 26th June 1761.*

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanstittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Peter Amys*, Esquire,  
*William Ellis*, Esquire,  
*W. B. Sumner*, Esquire,  
*Culling Smith*, Esquire.

**W**E have thought proper to order Colonel *Coote* and Major *Carnac* to return to *Calcutta* with all the Army, excepting Two hundred Europeans Rank and File, the European Cavalry, Fifty of the Artillery, Two thousand of the *Sepoys*, and Two hundred Country Horse, the which are to be left at *Patna*, under the Command of Captain *Cassairs*, to act under your Directions.—As the Province cannot be invaded by any foreign Enemies during the Rains, we think the above-

mentioned Force sufficient for the present Purpose, which is only to assist the Nabob in settling Accounts with *Ramnarain*, and the several Zemindars of the *Patna* Province.

This you are to do in general to the utmost of your Power, in such Manner as he may apply to you.—With respect to *Ramnarain*, it may be necessary to be somewhat more particular: Colonel *Coote* is already directed to assist the Nabob, so far as to suspend him (*Ramnarain*) from his Government until the Accounts are settled, and to put the Nabob's People in Possession of all the Revenues; this you will conform to, and let him be brought to an Adjustment of his Accounts by such Measures as the Nabob shall think proper.—The President has wrote to him so strongly in Favour of *Ramnarain*, so far as regards his Life and Honour, that we are persuaded the Nabob will not be desirous of carrying his Resentment for his ill Behaviour to any such Length.

If any Part of the Nabob's Demands upon *Ramnarain* should appear to you unreasonable, you will acquaint

quaint us with the Particulars, and wait our Answer; desiring the Nabob to let such Article remain undecided until our Answer comes from Calcutta.

In all Military Affairs, we recommend to you to consult with Captain *Carleues*, or the Officer commanding the Troops, and give due Weight to his Opinion.

We desire the Charges of the Troops may be brought

into the smallest Bounds possible, by Reduction of Batta, Coolies, Boats, Bullocks, &c. on all Occasions that will admit of it; and you will observe to discharge all the Country Horse, except Two hundred of the best, to be kept under the Command of the *Jemautdars Ai Raza Cawn* and *Mirza Shauhang beg*.

## N° 14.

Major Carnac's Letter to the Select Committee, 13 April 1761.

Gentlemen,

THE Shahzadah does not think the Assurances of your Support and Assistance so strong as to justify his waiting so many Months for the fulfilling thereof; nor has he (he observes) a Sufficiency for the Subsistence of his People and himself in the Interim; he therefore judges it most advisable to take the Advantage of *Abdalab's* Absence, and try his Fortune alone: I kept him off from this Design several Days; but the Nabob has at last so effectually counteracted me, by bribing some of the Prince's Favourites to urge to him the Necessity of his immediate Departure, that this Counsel has prevailed; he quitted the City in the Morning, and is now arrived at his Tents; I imagine he will be for marching as speedily as possible; and as I have promised to accompany him as far at least as the *Caramassas*, I have ordered Half of Major *York's* Detachment to join us, leaving the rest, under the Command of Captain *Robinson*, to attend the Nabob, agreeable to his Request.

I have long had Reason to suspect the Nabob had ill Designs against *Ramnarain*, and have now found my Suspicions to be too true. His Excellency made a heavy Complaint to me Yesterday, in the Presence of Mr. *McGuire*, Major *York*, Messrs. *Lushington* and *Swinton*, that there was a considerable Balance due on the Revenues of the said Province; *Ramnarain* has declared to me, that he was very ready to lay the Accounts before him; however, as the Two Parties differ widely in their Statement, Mr. *McGuire* and I proposed that they should each make out their Accounts, and refer them to your Board, who would fairly decide between them: This, which I thought was a reasonable Proposal, was so far from being satisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared nothing less could satisfy him than the *Mahraja's* being

removed from the Naibat of this Province before he returned to *Moorshedabad*. You are all I believe acquainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel *Circe* engaged to *Ramnarain*, on the Part of the *English*, that he should be continued Subah Naib of this Province as long as he chose to be so; and that the Colonel constantly opposed every Attempt of *Meer Jaffer*, or the Chuta Nabob, to remove him. This Engagement should surely hold equally good against *Coffin Ally Cawn*, as being prior to any you have concluded with him. Thus far Justice pleads in Behalf of *Ramnarain*; and it is certainly good Policy to support the Weight and Influence of a Person known to be so attached to the *English* Interest, in order to counterbalance the Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes a Point to take all Power from out of the Hands of those whom he finds to favour or be favoured by the *English*. Of this I have seen more Instances than One, and he is now giving a fresh Proof of it in the Case of *Rey Sbitaboy*, whom he is about to dispossess of his *Jacuiers*, though he deserves particular Consideration, both from the Nabob and us, on Account of the Zeal and Affiduity with which he served both, in the Transactions with the *Shahzadah*.

I am directed, Gentlemen, by your Letter under Date the 9th of February, to protect *Ramnarain* against all Violence and Injustice that may be offered against his Person, Honour, or Fortune. If you do not mean to include in these the Continuance of the Subahdarree to him, it will be impossible for me to comply with your Directions; and the Moment that all Power is taken from himself, he will be reduced to the Necessity of seeking an Asylum elsewhere, from the Oppressions of the Nabob.

Signed

John Carnac.

## N° 15.

Major Carnac's Letter to Governor and Council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Received a Letter last Night of a very extraordinary Nature indeed, from *Rajabulub*, inclosed under Cover to Mr. *Lushington*: The Purport of his Letter to me, was to beg I would assist him with my Interest to procure him the Naibat of this Province in the Room of *Ramnarain*; and his Letter to Mr. *Lushington* was to engage him to intercede with me to that Purpose.—With the Letters were Two promisory Notes under his Seal, One for Fifty thousand Rupees to myself, the other for Twenty-two thousand Rupees to Mr. *Lushington*. We have both wrote to him in the Terms his Insolence deserves; and it gives me the utmost Concern to find, that any Man of the Country should dare entertain the Thought, that

an *Englishman* was to be influenced by a Bribe.—You have not been pleased, Gentlemen, to allow me to have any Thing to say or do with regard to *Ramnarain*; but if it depended on me, I declare no Consideration whatever should induce me to give my Consent to removing a Man, whom we are bound to maintain by Engagements prior to, and consequently more obligatory than, any we have since entered into with *Coffin Ally Cawn*. I have had Hints before, with regard to this unfortunate *Gentee*, to which if I would have listened, I might probably have turned my Campaign to pretty good Account; but, indifferent as my Circumstances are, I thank God I scorn enlarging them by any Means that would not stand the most public Inspection.

I have

I have thought it my Duty, Gentlemen, to acquaint you with this Affair; and now submit it to your Consideration, whether any Good can be expected from a Government, the Head whereof has been detected in

a most infamous Forgery, and whose present principal Favourite is capable of offering to barefaced a Bribe.

Safaram, 16 June 1761.

Signed  
John Carnac.

Nº 16.

President's Minute.

20th of July 1761.

THE President observes, that as Major Carnac has nothing to do but to obey the Orders of the Board, and has no Right to question or dispute upon them, his Letter of the 7th Instant will require no Answer.

It seems however, by the Tenor of many of the Major's Letters, and this in particular, that he thinks himself the higher Power, and the Board accountable to him; upon this Principle, after quoting the former Orders of the Select Committee in Favour of *Ramnarain*, dated the 9th February and 21st April, he proceeds to demand, Pray how are these reconcileable to the Instructions addressed, the 26th June, to Mr. McGwire?

Although the Board might do themselves Justice upon an Officer who thus forgets the Respect due to them, yet we chuse rather to refer it to the Determination of our honourable Masters; to whom it shall at the same Time be made appear, that those Orders in *Ramnarain's* Favour, are now the strongest Judgments that can be produced against him, as they are incontestable Proofs of our Desire to protect him, although the Engagements which have been so much talked of are no where to be met with — It shall be proved also, that those who profess the greatest Friendship for *Ramnarain*, and who have permitted, if not encouraged, him in refusing or evading for Five Months together to render any Account of his Administration, are in Effect his greatest Enemies, by putting it out of our Power to protect him longer in so shameful an Injustice, in which he has already been upheld until he had well near carried his Point, that of bringing the Nabob to Ruin, by a disgraceful Residence at *Panna*, at an immoderate Expence, without any Income from the Province — This it is imagined will hardly be said to be the Intent of the supposed Engagements; and therefore if any have made *Ramnarain* believe the Meaning of them would be so far stretched, it is they that are the Cause of his Tears, and it is they that must answer for his unhappy Death, if he should destroy himself, as Major Carnac seems to apprehend — It is however more probable that he will not prove quite so desperate; and that when he is convinced he is not independent of the Souba of *Murshudabad*, he will do what he ought to have done Five Months ago, that is, render to the Nabob an Account of his Administration; and in such Case he will be treated better than he pretends to expect, better a great deal than he deserves.

He has yet Hopes that Major Carnac may keep the Command of the Army: A Delay of Twenty Days, and Colonel *Coot's* coming down to *Calcutta*, might produce fresh Orders: A Man of *Ramnarain's* Disposition will contrive such a Possibility into a Certainty, and while he can hope for such a Protector at the Head of our Army, he will continue to think he has a Right to an unlimited Protection, and continue to evade rendering the Nabob any Accounts.

Major Carnac declares himself very freely on this Motion, and gives at the same Time a fresh Instance of the Respect he has for our Authority — This Passage of his Letter of the 7th Instant is worthy the Observation.

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tion of the Board, as well as of our honourable Masters; who seldom write to their Presidents and Councils with so great an Air of Superiority:

"I esteem myself extremely happy in being removed from the Command of the Army, as I could not have suffered it, while I was at the Head thereof, to be employed on the Purposes for which I find it is intended, without a direct Breach of the Declarations I have formerly made to you in regard to *Ramnarain*."

If more Instances of a like Nature are wanting, they may be seen in many of the Major's Letters, particularly in One to the Select Committee, dated the 16th June 1761 — His own Opinion and Declaration shall be the Rule of his Actions, and shall supersede the Orders of the Board — If our Declarations had merited a small Part of his Attention, *Ramnarain* would not have been deceived so long — The repeated Orders of the Select Committee, for obliging him to settle Accounts with the Nabob, shew, that it was never our Intention to screen him from that just Demand: The First of those Orders was in a Letter to the Major so long ago as the

It is true we did not fix a Day for *Ramnarain's* rendering his Accounts, which is a Proof of the Regard the Board have shewn him, and of the Moderation with which they have acted throughout the whole Affair.

Week after Week we expected to hear that the Accounts had been laid before the Nabob; instead of that, Excuse came upon Excuse. At length, on the 17th of May, we sent the Colonel particular Directions in what Manner to have the Account settled; That *Ramnarain* should be regarded as the Deputy of the Government of *Murshudabad*; that he should give the Nabob a faithful Account of the outstanding Balances, and the Nabob send his own People to collect them — Who could have imagined, that, after this, fresh Evasions would be admitted for Two Months more, notwithstanding the Nabob's Intreaties, and Representations of the Ruin in which he must soon be involved by his useless Expences?

The President wrote more than Once to *Ramnarain*, in Consequence of the Resolutions of the Select Committee, that our Protection would depend on his rendering a just Account to the Nabob; but he is lately advised by Mr. McGwire, that *Ramnarain*, instead of collecting the Revenues in a regular Manner, has taken, or rather accepted, from the Zemindars, large Sums by Way of Presents, which not being brought to Account makes their Balances appear much larger than they really are, and his own as much less — An Unwillingness to confess this fraudulent Attempt seems to be the true Cause of his seeking so many Shifts and Evasions.

Much more shall be said on this Subject hereafter, in order to prove to our honourable Masters, that the Resolutions lately taken by the Board (or, as Major Carnac politely expresses it, the Business that is likely to be carried on) were absolutely necessary for preserving the present Tranquillity, for maintaining the Constitution of the Government of these Provinces, and fulfilling, on our Part, the Treaty subsisting between the Company and the Nabob, as he has so faithfully done on his.

4 Q

R A M.

R A M N A R A I N ' s computed A C C O U N T of Three Years Government of the P A T N A P R O V I N C E, conformable to his Agreement.

D:

Rupees.

To the *Bengal* Subah each Year Three Lacks —  
 To Ditto for Moratta Chout or Dillie 10 Lacks —  
 To the Jagherdars 12 Lacks —  
 To the Maintenance of the Troops, agreed on 11½ Lacks —

9,00,000  
 30,00,000  
 36,00,000  
 34,50,000

109,50,000

To Profit and Loss, which *Remains* would have gained

10,50,000

120,00,000

C:

Rupees.

By supplied Produce of the Province of *Palna* each Year  
 40 Lacks —

120,00,000

Number of Troops; viz.

Horse 3,000 at 25 — 75,000

Foot 4,000 at 4 — 16,000

Tope Connah 700 at 3 — 2,100

93,100 per Month



N<sup>o</sup> 17.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

**WE** have received your Honour, &c. Council's Favours of the 4th Instant, inclosing List of Goods to be provided at this Factory, which we shall endeavour to comply with as nearly as possible.

We must beg Leave to observe to your Honour, &c. that, within these few Days, every Boat which we have sent out of the River, hath been stopped at the different Chowkeys, notwithstanding they have the Chief's Duffuck; our Gomastahs and People are confined, and used ill, and a very exorbitant Duty demanded, and our Servants in general greatly insulted all over the Country. Upon our sending to some of these Places, to enquire the Reason of this extraordinary Behaviour, Answer was given, That they had Orders from the Nabob to stop and levy Duties from every *English* Boat that passed, and on no Account to let them go free, as the *English* Duffuck was now of no Consequence in the

Country; and for this Purpose the Force at every Chowkey is augmented. This has occasioned an entire Stoppage to our Trade, greatly to the Detriment of our private Fortunes, as we have now large Quantities of Goods detained at the different Chowkeys, which we cannot get releas'd, unless we submit to pay the extravagant Custom they require; and, were we to do that, our Boats are liable to be stopp'd at the very next Chowkey, and the same Duty again demanded. Of these Circumstances we think it necessary to inform your Honour, &c. and hope speedy Measures will be taken to procure us Redress. We are under daily Apprehensions, that a Custom will be demanded on our Cloth Purchases, which must be of great Prejudice to our honourable Employers.

We are, with great Respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

Humble Servants,

*W<sup>m</sup> Billers.*

*Sam. Middleton.*

*Luckypore,*

*October 4th, 1762.*

N<sup>o</sup> 18, 19.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

**TO** prevent any Blame being hereafter thrown on us, for the Deficiency of our Investment, we are now to inform you, That at *Johannabad*, the principal Cloth Atlung, *W<sup>m</sup> Gomastahs*, *Delolls*, &c. have been pe-temperently ordered to desist from purchasing, and to quit the Place. Upon their Noncompliance, they have been threatened and abused in the most vile and gross Terms, and the Washermen employed in whitening our Cloths have been actually beat, and Peons put on them to prevent their going on in their Business.

*Rajah Nobut Roy* (to whom the Chief has Twice complain'd of these Proceedings) declares, that the Person (*Peru Roy*) who thus insults us, and impedes the

Company's Business, is independent of him, so that it would seem he is sent by the Nabob merely for this Purpose.

If such Insolence is suffered to pass unnoticed, we can have no Hopes of completing our Investment; for who will serve us, whilst they thereby subject themselves to such severe and ignominious Treatment from the Country Government.

For the carrying on the Company's Business 'tis evident, we must be obliged to repel Force by Force, and shall do so, unless we receive your Honour, &c. Orders to the contrary.

We are,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient

Humble Servants,

*W. Ellis.*

*Patna,*

*the 7th October 1762.*

N<sup>o</sup> 20, 21.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

**WE** think it our Duty to inform you, that the Outrages committed in these Parts by the Government's People, for this Month past, have arrived to such a Height, as to put almost a total Stop to our Business. At every Chowkey our Boats are stopp'd, the People insulted, and the Flag used with the utmost and most gross Contempt. Our Advices from *Sylhet* give us the same Intelligence; further adding, that Muchulaws have been taken from many Inhabitants, prohibiting

them, on no Account to have any Connections with the *English*. As this Spirit of Insolence increases to a very surprising Degree, and we have daily the Mortification to bear of repeated Insults and Violences offered to our Privileges, we are under an Apprehension, that the Company's Business will, in a few Days, share the same Fate as all private has. To prevent and remedy these Evils, we must depend on the Measures your Honour, &c. Council may take in Consequence of this Information.

As Appearances are so very unpromising, we have wrote to the Gentlemen of *Chittagong* for a Reinforcement of a Company of *Scapays* which shall

be again returned them, when Affairs begin to clear up.

We are, with Respect,  
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
Your most obedient Servants,  
*John Cartier,*  
*For French.*

*Dacca,*  
*the 8th October, 1762.*

P. S. Since concluding this Letter, I am informed, that Eight Boats, loaded with the Company's Chnum, with my Duffuck, are stopped at a Place called *Jafferabuzzee*, near *Ruttangunge*, and the Buxuries on the same are plundered and ill used. The Manus of the Boats are returned from that Place, and gave me this Intelligence.  
*John Cartier.*

## N° 22.

From the Governor and Council, to *William Ellis*,  
Esquire, Chief at *Patna*.

Sir,

**T**HIS Instant we have received your Letter of the 7th; and inclose a Letter from the President to the Nabob, on the Subject of your Complaint, and hope it will be effectual in removing all Interruption in the Company's Business.—But, at all Events, as we have it sufficiently in our Power to procure Satisfaction for any Injury that may be done to the Interests of our Em-

ployers, you are on no Account to make use of Force, without our exprefs Directions. You do not mention, in your Letter, that you made any Application to the Nabob to put a Stop to the Difficulties you represent, and which certainly you ought to have done, when you was informed, that the Person you complain of was independent of the Naib of *Patna*; at least, it should have occurred to you, that such Application was necessary, before you should propose to make use of Force.

*Fort William,*  
*16th October 1769.*

We are, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servants.

## N° 23.

To *John Cartier*, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at *Dacca*.

Gentlemen,

**W**E have received your Letters of the 2d and 8th Instant.

In Answer to your last Letter, relative to the Dispute between your Gomastahs and the Government's People, we must needs say, that by the Information we receive from the inclosed Copies of Letters delivered in by the President, there is Reason to fear your Gomastahs and Agents have made use of very unwarrantable Practices in their Trade, and perhaps your Disputes with the Government's People, and the Interruptions you complain of, have been owing to that Cause; but as we are always able and willing, when the Necessity of Circumstances may require it, to procure you Redress for any Injuries you may suffer in your Trade, or otherways, we direct, that you forbear, in such Cases, making use of Force without our Permission and Orders; and therefore desire you will return to *Chittagong* immediately the Company of *Seapoy*s which you have wrote for from thence; and if any Complaints of Interruptions in your Business are hereafter made by your Gomastahs, let Mr. *Cartier* send a Person to enquire into the Truth of the Affair, with a Letter to the proper Officer of the Government, to desire that he will put a Stop to such Obstructions.

Inclosed are Letters from the President to *Jeseraï Crown*, the Naib, and *Mahomed Ali*, the Collector of the Revenues, which, we hope, will prevent any further Disorders, at least until the President can make the necessary Regulations in Concert with the Nabob.

The above-mentioned Copies of Letters we have forwarded to you for your Information, and hope, in case there should be any Facts in them misrepresented, and we desire you will send, on your Parts, a particular State of your Complaints to the President, who will take the proper Measures to obtain Satisfaction and Indemnification for all Losses or Damages. You will likewise take effectual Care, that none of your Gomastahs or Agents do in future use any Kind of Force or Authority in carrying on your Trade, lest the Disputes occasioned by such Practices should in the End affect the Company's Business; neither must your Gomastahs be suffered to set themselves up as Magistrates in the Country, in hearing Disputes between the Inhabitants, imposing Fines, &c. &c.

The Court of Directors have this Year sent out a Gentleman, named Mr. *Delaporte*, to assist in regulating and improving their Cloth Investment; and he having declared to us at the Board, That he thinks he can be of the greatest Use at your Factory, in sorting and packing the Variety of Mulmulls and Doorias, we have directed him to proceed thither accordingly with all convenient Expedition. And we desire you will give to each other such mutual Advice and Assistance, as may most tend to the Benefit of our honourable Employers.

It may be proper to remind you, that the Time limited for Mr. *Chevalier*'s coming to *Calcutta* is expired.

*Fort William,*  
*18th October 1762.*

We are, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servants.

N<sup>o</sup> 24.

To William Billers, Esquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Luckypoor.

Gentlemen,

AS we learn by our Letters from the Gentlemen at *Dacca*, that many Disputes have lately happened between their Gomastahs and the Government's People in the Course of their Trade, we have thought it necessary to lay the following down as a standing Rule, which you will please to observe, in case any Disputes of the like Nature should occur with you.

If any Complaints or Interruptions in your Business are hereafter made by your Gomastahs, let Mr. Billers send a Person to enquire into the Truth of the Affair, with a Letter to the proper Officer of the Government,

to desire he will put a Stop to such Obstructions: We are hopeful this will have the desired Effect, at least until the President can make the necessary Resolutions in Concert with the Nabob; and in the mean Time you are not, and likewise take effectual Care that none of your Gomastahs or Agents do, in future, use any Kind of Force or Authority in carrying on your Trade, lest the Disputes occasioned by such Practices should, in the End, affect the Company's Business: Neither must your Gomastahs be suffered to let themselves up as Magistrates in the Country, in hearing Disputes between the Inhabitants, imposing Fines, &c. &c.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

Fort William,

18th October 1762.

N<sup>o</sup> 25.

To William Billers, Esquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Luckypore.

Gentlemen,

WE have received your Letter of the 14th Instant.

In answer to which we must refer you to ours of the 18th, for Directions how to regulate yourselves regarding the Obstructions you complain of—till such Time as the President can arrive with the Nabob, and enquire into the Cause of these Interruptions, and settle a solid Plan for the future Safety and Freedom of our Trade.

In the mean Time, as Mr. Billers has acquainted the President that you have always paid the Shawl-under Duties, but that now fresh Customs are demanded, we desire to know what the Amount of the Shawl-under Duties are, and the Particulars of these fresh Customs which are now levied, that the President may guide himself thereby in settling with the Nabob.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants.

Fort William,

26th October 1762.

N<sup>o</sup> 26.

Translation of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated 12th *Rabbee d'Sannee* (1st November) received 8th November 1762.

I Have received, with great Pleasure, your friendly Letter. You write that you learn from Mr. Ellis, the Chief of the Factory at *Paina*, that Cloths have been provided for many Years at the Aurung of *Icha-nabad*, for the Company; now *Peria Rey*, the Aumil of that Place, obstructs the Weavers in providing the Cloths; and whenever they are made, hinders the Washermen from dressing and washing them, to the great Prejudice of the Company's Business; and you desire that I will give strict Orders to the Aumil not to molest the Company's Gomastahs, and to assist them on every Occasion.—Sir, wherever that Gentleman has an Opportunity, he fails not to make Complaints of his Business. As he has found my Officers in no Instance

faulty, he has wrote to you the Impertinencies and Complaints of the Washermen: You well know, Sir, that the Washermen pay no Duties, and that the Aumils have no Authority to interrupt them, or prevent their washing and dressing the Cloths: Was this Affair really true, he would have informed *Rajah Nobitroy* of it, and he would immediately have wrote to the Aumil about it; but as it is altogether without Foundation, he chose to make a false Complaint to you. Do you, yourself, Sir, consider this Affair: Nevertheless I have sent strict Orders to the Rajah, to write to the Aumil, that he on no Account obstruct the Currency of the Company's Business; and that, on Application from the Gomastahs of the Factory, he afford them due Aid and Assistance.

N<sup>o</sup> 27.

To *Peter Amatt*, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

I Find that the Interruptions the Gentlemen at *Chittagong*, *Dacca*, and *Luckypore*, have met with for some Weeks past, are owing to the bad Disposition of *Mahomed Aly*, the Person last appointed by the Nabob to collect the Rents of that Part of the Country. *Syed Mahomed Cawn*, the Deputy Governor of *Muxadabad*, expresses as much Repentment against that Man as we do ourselves, and assures me that he has represented him in such a Light to the Nabob, that he is persuaded he will immediately be dismissed from his Office: This is a Point I shall urge to the Nabob, if it is not done before I arrive at *Mangre*; and further, that he be punished for his Insolence, and obliged to make Satisfaction for all Losses which may have been incurred by the Delays he has occasioned. In the mean Time I have the Honour to transmit you Four Orders from *Syed Mahomed Cawn*, to the said Collector, warning him of the bad Consequences of his present Conduct, and charging him not to obstruct the Business of our Factories; I send likewise one from myself. These, forwarded to the respective Factories, will, I hope, remove all Obstructions; and, on the other Hand, *Syed Mahomed Cawn* desires that our Gentlemen will take all possible Care to prevent their Gomastahs and Agents

from interfering in the Business of the Government, or using Force in buying or selling.

I have not yet the Nabob's Answer concerning the Disputes between the Uncle and Nephew for the Zemindary of *Babepore*: As soon as I receive it I shall forward it to you, that you may give the necessary Directions to the Chief, &c. at *Luckypore*.

The Answer I have received from the Nabob to Mr. *Ellis*'s Complaint I now inclose, with a Translation—I think it would be proper to send a Copy to that Gentleman, with Directions to apply to the Naib at *Patna*, if in future he should meet with any Interruptions in his Business, and if the Naib either refuses, or has not Authority, to remove them, then so apply to the Nabob himself; from whom, if he does not obtain such Redress and Assistance as the Case may require, then to make his Representation to the Board, with Copies of his Letters to the Government, and the Answers received; by this we shall be saved the Trouble of hearing Complaints, except in Cases where our Interposition becomes really necessary.

I shall set out from hence for *Mangre* the 11th.

I have the Honour to be, with great Esteem,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, and most  
Humble Servant,  
*Cassimbazar*,  
the 9th November 1762. *Henry Van Sittart*:

N<sup>o</sup> 28.

From the Governor and Council, to *John Cartier*, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at *Dacca*.

Gentlemen,

WE have just received a Letter from the President at *Cassimbazar*, acquainting us that he understands, from the Conversation he has had with *Syed Mahomed Khan*, that the Interruptions to the Business at your Factory, and those of *Luckypore* and *Chittagong*, have been owing entirely to the bad Disposition of *Mahomed Aly*; wherefore the President assures, that Dismission from his Employ is a Point he shall urge to the Nabob whenever he arrives at *Mongher*; and further insists, that he be punished for his Insolence, and obliged to make Satisfaction for all Losses which may have been incurred by the Delays he has occasioned.

In the mean Time the President has transmitted us Four Orders from *Syed Mahomed Khan*, and one from himself to the said *Mahomed Aly*, warning him of the bad Consequence of his present Conduct, and charging him not to obstruct the Business of our Factories: The same we now forward you, inclosed, to deliver to the Collector, and hope they will have the Effect of removing all Obstructions.

You will please immediately to advise the Gentlemen at *Luckypore* and *Chittagong*, of the Receipt and Tenor of these Orders; and again, when you are sensible of the Effect they may have on *Mahomed Aly*'s Conduct, of which you will likewise please to advise us.

We are,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servants,  
*Fort William*,  
11th November 1762.

Nº 29.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Arrived Yesterday at the Quarters prepared for me by the Nabob, about Two Miles from the Fort of *Mungeer*; his Uncle, *Terab Aly Cawn*, met me at *Georgutty*, and the Nabob himself about Four Miles from the Fort. This Morning I went with Mr. *Hastings*, and all the rest of the Gentlemen, to the Fort, to return his Visit.

I have been favoured with your Letter of the 15th of November: I have not as yet entered upon any Business with the Nabob, but I perceive he has many Complaints to make against the Company's Dependants in different Parts of the Country, as we have against his; I have, however, found him in the Disposition I wished and expected, very desirous of having our respective Pretensions equitably discussed, and such Regulations made as may prevent, as far as possible, any Disputes between our People and his in future. He is

sensible as we are, that in so extensive a Connection, Complaints will frequently be received on both Sides; but he looks upon such Accidents as too trivial to affect the Friendship between him and the Company; and desires only, that on all such Occasions Time may be taken to make a candid and dispassionate Enquiry; promising, on his Part, to punish with Severity any of his People who shall be found guilty of Oppression, or Want of Respect towards the Company's Dependants; and expecting the same Justice from us.

I shall proceed, with Mr. *Hastings's* Assistance and Concurrence, in such Enquiries as shall be necessary on the Subject of the Complaints now in Question; and in establishing such Rules between the Nabob and us as may prevent them for the future.

I am, with Esteem,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

*Mungeer*, the  
1st December 1762.

*Henry Van Sittart*.

Nº 30 and 31.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Enclosed I sent for your Perusal two *Persian* Letters, delivered to me by the Nabob, with their Translations.

One from Mr. *Cartier* to *Mahomed Aly*, the Collector of the *Dacca* Districts, which, if I understood it right (for the Expressions are rather obscure) is wrote in a very improper Style, as it tends to encourage and promote that Evil which we have taken so much Pains to remedy; I mean a Jealousy and Distrust between us and the Nabob: I request you will be pleased to call on Mr. *Cartier* for an Explanation of his Meaning, and give him such a Caution on the Occasion as to you shall seem necessary.

The other, from Messrs. *Johnston*, *Hay*, and *Bolts*, to *Shey Aly Cawn*, Fousedar, of *Purnea*, indoried by Mr. *Bolts*, in *English*, and written, I imagine, by him, in the Name of the Partnership. Whoever reads this Letter must naturally conclude no other Government subsisted among us; since it was left to Mr. *Bolts* to assert the Privileges of the Firmann, and vindicate, in the Name of the *English*, the Freedom of the Company's Duffuck: Such Notions propagated in the Country must needs be prejudicial to the Company's Affairs, by weakening their Government; and it is for this Reason the Company have forbid Letters to be written to the Country Government by any Person excepting the President, or with his Approbation. I never refused to apply for Redress for any Grievance that the Gentlemen in the Service, and all other Inhabitants of the Settlement, have applied to me about, and in Case of my Illness or Absence, Mr. *Amyatt* was

ready to give them the same Assistance: I must therefore recommend to you to inflict such Censure or Punishment on Mr. *Bolts*, as shall seem to you necessary for preventing such Irregularities in future. I could wish also that it were made a Rule for the Chiefs of the subordinate Factories, and all others, when they write Letters to the Country Government, to sign them, that, in case of their being produced afterwards, they may be known to be authentic.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that, to this Time, there is no Appearance of the Tranquillity of these Provinces being disturbed by any Enemies: *Shaw Allum* and *Shujab Dewla* remain near *Cerreginabad*, and seem to have nothing in View but maintaining the Possession of those Conquests they made last Year upon the *Marattas*, near the Banks of the *Turarna*. The *Robellas*, *Tants*, and other Chiefs about *Dely*, divided as they are upon other Points, agree in opposing *Shujab Dewla*; which, no Doubt, is the Reason he does not attempt to advance further towards the Capital, and which occasioned him to apply to the Nabob, and ask for an Assistance of Forces. The Nabob does not judge it advisable to comply with this Application, nor in any Manner to engage in the Contest, which, he says, would be attended with a great Expence, and a Risk of involving himself in Trouble. I think this Advice is also most suitable to the Circumstances of the Company's Affairs: Our chief Object should be to preserve what we now hold in Tranquillity; and indeed the continual Reduction of our Forces, by Casualties, without any Recruits, puts it out of our Power to spare any considerable Detachment. The Nabob keeps about Four thousand Hories in the *Barigepore* Country, to guard that Frontier, and intends, about a Month hence, to march to *Butea*, to complete the Regulation of that District, and with

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some View to the Reduction of the adjoining Province of *Napante*.

I shall wait here till Major *Adams's* Arrival, in order to introduce him to the Nabob; after which I pur-

pose to visit the *Pukia* Factory, and then return to *Calcutta*.

I am, with Esteem,  
Mongeer, Gentlemen,  
15th Dec. 1762.

Your most humble Servant,  
*Henry Van Sittart.*

# Nº 32.

To *Peter Amyatt*, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council of *Port William*.

Gentlemen,

**W**E have had many Conferences with the Nabob, on the Subject of the late Complaints, which appear to have been chiefly occasioned by the private Inland Trade, or the Trade from Place to Place, in the Country. He enlarged much on the Licentiousness and Oppressions exercised by our Gomastahs, especially in those distant Parts of the Province where his Government is less established, and too remote for our Enquiries into their Behaviour. He argued, that the Trade of those Parts consisted chiefly in Articles produced and sold in the Country, from which former Nabobs had always restrained all *Europeans*, and to which he did not conceive that we would claim any Right from our Firmaun.

We agree with the Nabob in Opinion, that the true Intent and natural Meaning of the Firmaun granted to the Company, was to give to them and their Servants a free Trade, clear of all Customs, in all Articles of Commerce to be imported or exported by Shipping: From such Commerce a mutual Benefit is derived to our Country and to this; but the Trade from Place to Place in the Country, in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and other Commodities produced here, bringing no general Benefit to the Country, but to Particulars only, who had the same in their Hands, we do not think the Firmaun can be understood to include them within the Privilege of the Duffuck, or to grant us a Right to trade therein, on any other Footing than the Natives themselves; that is, paying the usual Customs to the Government; for if we had a Right therein to trade Custom-free, and the Natives must pay, it follows, no one but ourselves could carry on any Trade, which we cannot suppose the Firmaun intended.

It is Fact that the Nabobs of these Provinces did formerly restrain the *Europeans* from carrying on this Trade upon any Footing, and by farming out the several Articles to particular Merchants, draw to themselves a considerable Revenue.

After the Defeat and Death of *Seraja Dowla*, and the Establishment of *Jaffer Aly Cawn* in the Subahship, by the Assistance of the *Englishs*, we began to take a Share of this Trade, which Share has been from Day to Day encreasing. It has, however, always been a Subject of Dispute with the Country Government, our Right never having been admitted by them, nor regularly claimed and established by us; and the Government's Duties have generally been paid.

But not content with this, the *Englishs* Gomastahs, in different Parts, have lately begun to insist upon this Trade as a Firmaun Privilege, equally with the Foreign Trade, and refused to pay any Customs: The Government's People, on their Part, demanded the Customs, and, upon the Refusal, stopped the Goods; and this Contest has been the Occasion of many of the Complaints received by us and by the Nabob.

As on one Hand, we do not see any Reason why the *English* Gentlemen, and other Inhabitants of *Calcutta* and the subordinate Factories, should carry on the Inland Trade with the Company's Duffuck, or in any Respect more advantageously than the Country Merchants; so, on the other Hand, we think it would be a great Hardship, if we and all belonging to us were not admitted upon an Equality with the Merchants and Inhabitants of other Parts of *Bengal*, and suffered to trade on equal Terms, in all Commodities, and in all Places, provided our Agents and Gomastahs do not set up for Magistrates in the Country, and carry on their Business by Force and Oppression: Practices of this Sort, in many of the *English* Agents and Gomastahs, and an Abuse, on the Part of the Nabob's Officers, of the Power put into their Hands for the Restraint of such Practices, have been further Causes of the many Complaints lately received.

In these Sentiments, the Regulations we have proposed to the Nabob, for fixing the Manner of carrying on this Trade in future, and preventing any Disputes between his Officers and our Agents and Gomastahs, are as follows:

1. That for all Trade imported or exported by Shipping, the Company's Duffuck shall be granted; and it shall pass unmolested, and free of Customs, as usual.

2. For all Trade from one Place to another, in Commodities produced in the Country, as Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, &c. the Company's Duffuck shall not be granted, but it shall go with the Duffuck of the Buckf-bundar, Shawbundar, or other Office of the Country Government.

3. That at the Time of taking out the said Duffuck, and before the Dispatch of the Goods, the Duties shall be paid, according to the Rates which shall be particularly settled and annexed to this Agreement.

4. That the said Duties so to be paid before Exportation shall be the Whole that are to be paid; so that after the Dispatch of the Goods nothing shall be paid at any Chokees in the Road, nor at the Place of Sale.

5. Thus all Goods being furnished, either with the Company's Duffuck, or that of the Government, shall meet with no Obstruction or Delay—The Guards and Chokees in the Road shall have nothing more to do than to demand a Sight of the Duffuck, unless they shall observe the Boats to be laden with a larger Quantity of Goods than are mentioned in the Duffuck, or with other Sorts of Goods than those mentioned in the Duffuck; in which Case they are to give immediate Notice to the nearest *English* Factory, as well as to the nearest Officer of the Government, that Orders may be sent to have a strict Examination; but they are not to detain them in the Road.

6. If any one shall attempt to pass Goods without a Duffuck, either from the Government or the Company, or shall clandestinely procure a Company's Duffuck, to pass Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, or other Produce of the Country, from Place to Place for Inland Trade, such Goods shall be seized and confiscated;

the

the Guards and Chokeins in the Road are to stop them, and give Notice to the nearest *English* Factory, as well as the nearest Officer of the Government.

7. If any Person, not having a Duffuck, shall attempt to pass Boats or Goods clandestinely, under the Cover of, and in Company with, other Boats or Goods having a Duffuck, such Boats or Goods so attempted to be passed clandestinely shall be seized and confiscated.

8. The Gomastahs in every Place shall carry on their Trade freely, and as Merchants, and shall on no Account use Force in buying or selling: If any Dispute arises in the Course of their Business, they shall not attempt to redress themselves, but shall make their Complaints to the Fouzedar, or other Officer of the Government, and have the Matter tried before him; in like Manner, if any Merchant or Inhabitant shall be aggrieved by an *English* Gomastah, he shall make his Complaint to the Fouzedar, or other Officer of the Government; and the Gomastah being duly summoned, shall appear before him to answer to the Charge, and have the Matter determined.

9. To deter the Fouzedar and the Officers of the Government from being guilty of any Partiality, they shall be enjoined to transmit to the Nabob, Copies of their Proceedings upon all Trials where *English* Agents or Gomastahs are concerned, and likewise to give a Copy to the Agent or Gomastah; who, if he thinks himself aggrieved, may send the same to his Principal, and he may make his Complaint to the President, who, if the Case requires it, will apply to the Nabob for Redress: And when any Fouzedar, or other Officer of the Government, shall prove guilty of such Partiality, the Nabob shall punish him in the most exemplary Manner.

We think it would be unreasonable to desire to carry on the Inland Trade upon any other Footing than that of the Merchants of the Country; and that the attempting to carry it on free of Customs, and with the Company's Duffuck, would bring upon us an universal Jealousy and ill Will, and in the End prejudice the Company's Affairs as well as our own.—In the Course of our Conferences upon this Subject, the Nabob observed, That if the *English* Gomastahs were permitted to trade in all Parts and in all Commodities Custom free, as many of them now pretend, they must of Course draw all the Trade into their Hands, and his Customs would be of so little Value to him, that it would be much more for his Interest to lay Trade entirely open, and collect no Customs from any Person whatever, upon any Kind of Merchandize; which would draw a Number of Merchants into his Country, and encrease his Revenues, by encouraging the Cultivation and Manufacture of a larger Quantity of Goods for Sale; at the same Time that (he added) it would effectually cut off the principal Subject of Disputes

which had disturbed the good Understanding between us; an Object he had more than any other at Heart. This Scheme we discouraged all in our Power, as it would immediately render the Duffuck useless, and prejudice our honourable Masters Business, by enhancing the Number of Purchasers; and it is an Argument why we ought readily to consent to the Regulation now proposed, Not to risk hurting the Company's Interest for our own private Advantage.

The Nabob desires that our Orders may be repeated, That none of the Company's Servants, Agents, Gomastahs, or other Person employed by them, shall be permitted to hold Offices under the Country Government, nor to purchase, rent, or hold, Lands, Gunges, or Markets, nor to lend Money to the Zemindars or Collectors; as all these are Sources of Dispute between the Company's People and the Government's.

We have sent to Mr. *Helas* the Nabob's Orders for the free Purchase of Timber wanted for the new Fort; and the Nabob has expressed to *Sbyr Ally*, the Fouzedar of that District, his highest Displeasure at the Obstructions he before laid in his Way, and the ill Treatment which the *English* Gomastahs in general complained of from him.

Inclosed we send the Nabob's Orders to *Mabomed Ally*, the Collector of the *Dacca* Districts, enjoining him to release all Boats that may be stopped by him, or any other Person under his Jurisdiction; to demand for Customs nothing more than has hitherto been paid upon the Inland Trade of those Parts; and to refund all that may have been extorted beyond that: Likewise another Order to the same Person, requiring him to transmit a more circumstantial Account of the Dispute between the Uncle and the Nephew, about the Zemindary of *Babooport*, and how it happened that Three or Four of our *Scapays* were killed there; but as both in this Affair, and that of *Tangoor*, dependant on *Purnea*, where One of Mr. *Gray's* Gomastahs was killed, a severe Example seems highly necessary, we have agreed with the Nabob to send a Person on our Part along with One of his, to enquire upon the Spot, and bring a full and impartial Account of each of those Events; and the Nabob has promised to punish his People with the utmost Severity, if they prove to be as guilty as they now appear. Mr. *Hastings* will go to *Tangoor* to finish that Enquiry; and we desire you will direct Mr. *Billers* to produce the necessary Proofs to the Person who may be appointed by the Nabob to enquire concerning the other Affairs.

We are, with Esteem,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

*Mongeer*,  
15 December 1762.

*Henry Van Sittart*,  
*Warren Hastings*.

N<sup>o</sup> 33.

Translation of a Letter from Messrs. *Johnstone, Hay*, and *Belts*, to *Meer Sheer Ally Cawn*, the Fouzdar of *Purnea*, recorded on *Fort William* Consultations. December 27th 1762.

OUR Gomastah, *Ramchurn Dosi*, being gone into those Parts, meets with Obstructions from you in whatever Business he undertakes; moreover, you have published a Prohibition to this Effect, That whoever shall have any Dealing with the *English*, you will seize his House, and lay a Fine upon him. In this Manner have you prohibited the People under your Jurisdiction. We were surprized at hearing of this Affair; because

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that the Royal Firman, which the *English* Nation is possessed of, is violated by this Proceeding; but the *English* will by no Means suffer with Patience their Firman to be broke through. We therefore expect, that upon the Receipt of this Letter, you will take off the Order you have given to the *Ryotts*, and in case of your not doing it, we will certainly write to the Nabob, in the Name of the *English*, and send for such

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an Order from him, that you shall restore, fully and entirely, whatever Loss the *English* have sustained, or shall sustain, by this Obstruction, and that you shall repent having thus interrupted our Business, in despite of the Royal Firmaun. After reading this Letter, we

are persuaded you will desist from interrupting it, will act agreeably to the Rules of Friendship, and so that your Amity may appear, and will by no Means stop the Company's Dufftucks.

## N° 34.

Extract of the Nabob's Letter to *Mahomed Ally*, the Naib of *Dacca*.

THE Governor writes to me, that you interrupt his own Gomastah: Notwithstanding in the Paper of Regulations, there is no Distinction of private and public; yet, as the Governor is my Friend, I accordingly

write to you, not to impede the Gomastah of his private Trade, that may have with him either the Governor's, or Company's Dufftuck.

## N° 35.

To *Peter Amyatt*, Esquire, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

WE did ourselves the Honour to write to you Yesterday, and have since been surprized by the Receipt of Two Papers (which come inclosed for your Perusal) from the Naib, and from *Mahomed Ally* of this Place, who desired to be informed what Degree of Regard we intend to pay the Orders they contained; to which we replied, That we did not dare to acquiesce with the Terms of those Papers, as the President and Council of *Calcutta*, on whom alone it rested to give Sanction to such Commands, had not thought proper to transmit us any such Instructions. We know not in what Light you will look on these Directions to the Naib of this Place, but hope will approve the Reply we made, and will pardon us the Liberty of addressing a few Lines on this Subject. The immediate Circulation of these Articles throughout the Country will be attended with very bad Consequences to the Company's Investment, and must intirely ruin most of us at this Place, who, on the Faith of Treaties or public Indulgences, have large Concerns Abroad, which never can be collected in, if the Privileges, without any previous Notice, be snatched from us. The Protection of our Gomastahs and Servants from the Oppression and Jurisdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcherries, has ever been found to be a Liberty highly essential both to the Honour and Interests of our Nation; and we apprehend the Utility of it for carrying on every Kind of Business, but especially the Provision of Cloth, is so well known to you, Gentlemen, that it is needless for us to add more, as you will at once perceive the numberless Vexations and Interruptions we shall meet with, if the Zemindars have Authority, on every slight Dispute, to summon and confine our Gomastahs whenever they think proper. The Injunctions with respect to Dufftucks affects every Article of Commerce, except such as are imported on Shipping, Mr. *Cartier* being enjoined not to give any one for any Article that is the Produce of *Bengal*, and to pay a Duty of Nine per Cent. to the Nabob on every Merchandize not brought in or sent by Sea. This surely cannot be meant, but the Words seem too equivocal, not to make us wish to have your Sense of them, on so important a Point. A Duty, once fixed, would scarce be a Burden; but if, added to this, we are subjected to vexatious Applications to the Nabob's Officers for Dufftucks, it will be

a Grievance we shall indeed feel. The Dignity and Benefit of our Dufftucks are the chief Badges of Honour, or at least the Interest we enjoy from our Phirmaund, and has been held in such Esteem, as to secure our Effects from those Depredations which the Natives suffer, in passing their Goods through the Country; and if these new Duties on all the Products of the Country are thought just, may not the Nabob be properly secured of them by the Shawbunder's Receipts for the Customs being always affixed to the Back of every Dufftuck, previous to its being signed? This will surely ascertain, in the most ample Form, the Duties to the Nabob, and free us from the principal Grievance we can feel from their Increase. The Prohibition with respect to Tofalls is a Restraint not even put on the Moguls and Natives; the Liberty of erecting new ones, so far from being injurious to the Nabob, absolutely enhances his Customs, by clearing Lands that would otherwise have been uninhabited; and the Order to purchase every Thing for ready Money, amounts nearly to an Exclusion from all such Branches of Trade, as the Venders will then impose on us whatever Prices they judge proper.

With respect to *Affam*, we must beg leave to observe, That the Nabob, or his Phouddar of *Rang Mattee*, can have no more Right to regulate the Terms of our Commerce with the Natives of that Country, than with those of *China*; all the Power he exerts over our Gomastahs is arbitrary and oppressive; and neither Justice or ancient Customs can warrant such Abuses, or regulate his Officers in the collecting of Taxes. Though the whole Direction is now referred to his Droga, *Rangamitty*, no Duties have ever yet been paid on Lacks, Muggadooties, and other Goods brought from *Affam*: Those Goods may surely be deemed Imports, when they are brought into *Bengal*, and may be intitled to our Dufftucks.

All our Privileges, all our Fortunes, and future Prospects, depend upon the Result of our Deliberations on these Points: And we hope, let what will be your Sentiments, you will be pleased to suspend the Execution of them, till your present Concerns are collected in with our ancient Indulgencies. No Treaty of Commerce in any Country has been carried into Execution, or fresh Duties levied, without a previous Declaration for as long a Term as was adequate to the Settlement of those Concerns that were to be influenced by such new Regulations; and we flatter ourselves, that



we shall not become Objects of unexampled Severity on this Occasion. The Trade of the Servants has ever been thought insular to your Protection; and we hope, if particular Branches are now to be given up, we shall still be indulged with the Influence of your Authority, and Privilege of our Duties, till we can finish our present Engagements: If you refuse us this Request, Gentlemen, you undo us at once, as the Publication of these Orders from *Mungbeer*, with the Stamp of your Authority, will so affect our National Credit and Influence in the Country, as must for ever disable us from collecting in the large Sums we have outstanding.

If we have obtruded on the Board more than is deemed fit, or presumed, in any Part of this, to advise, where Obedience was due, we crave your Pardon, and shall be ready to pay the utmost Respect to any Orders transmitted by your Board; being with great Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Dacca,  
10th January 1763.

John Cartier,  
A. W. Senior,  
R. Leycester,  
Tho French.

P. S. We are just now informed, That *Mahmud Ally* has obliged the different Zemindars (in Consequence of these Letters from *Mungbeer*) to give *Mokulkaws* to have no further Business with the *English*, or to allow of any to be transacted with them in their different Zemindaries. This, Gentlemen, in all Probability, will bring on such a Scene of Rapine and Destruction to our Properties, as may reduce us to the same Distress as we were brought to in the memorable Year Fifty-six.

John Cartier,  
A. W. Senior,

Tho French

N<sup>o</sup> 36.

To *Peter Amyatt*, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

I Have been favoured with your Letter of the 27th December, with a Copy of a Letter from the Director and Council at *Chinsura*, on the Subject of the Disputes between our Factory at *Patna* and theirs, concerning the Purchase of Opium; also Extract of a Letter from our Chief and Council of *Cossimbuzar*, about the Difficulty they meet with in exchanging the *Calcutta* Siccas.

I had left *Patna* before your Letter reached me; but as we had before received many Complaints from the *Dutch* about the Opium Purchases, I made it my Business to get all possible Information on the Subject, during my short Stay at that Place; particularly as Mr. *Talbot* wrote me to request I would endeavour to put an End to those Disputes. It has been frequently urged by the *Dutch*, that Mr. *Ellis* took Obligations from the Merchants and Picars, that they would not, under a Penalty, sell Opium to any but him; I asked the *Dutch* Chief, Upon what he grounded this Accusation, and whether he had ever seen such an Obligation, or even a Copy? to which he replied, That he had not, but that he had been so informed by his Agents. The Amuldar of *Babar* having made a Complaint of the like Nature to the Naib, I asked the Amuldar, If he could produce such an Obligation, or a Copy? he answered, That a Merchant of *Babar* had made a Complaint to him, that the *English* Gomastah had extorted a Bond from him not to purchase Opium (which had been his usual Trade) for that he, the *English* Gomastah, was to receive the Whole from the Picars; that he could therefore not pay Customs as before to the Government; at the same Time producing a Paper which he said was a Copy of the Bond, but did not deliver it to him—it remained therefore a Doubt whether this Charge against the *English* Gomastah was a Fact, or only a Pretence of the Merchant, to evade paying the Customs.—Mr. *Ellis* assured me, that he had forbid his Agents in the strictest Manner from any such Practices, and that he would severely punish the *Babar* Gomastah, should the Charge against him

prove true; and I desired the Naib to send for the Merchant, and require him to prove what he declared to the Amuldar.

Although I had not Time to trace the Affair to the Bottom, it is very certain that some Abuses must have been practised, to the great Detriment of this Trade, by the Persons employed in the Provision of Opium; for the *English* Factory has provided this Season scarce Three hundred Chests, and the *Dutch* only One hundred and Fifty; whereas the Two Factories and the *French* used to purchase without Difficulty near Three thousand Chests.

I conclude this Subject with acquainting you, that I made an Accommodation between the *English* and *Dutch* Chiefs, for carrying on their Opium Purchases for the future, in Concert, and in the same Manner as formerly; by which I hope all Disputes will be prevented, and both be provided with larger Quantities.

With respect to *Mahomed Ally*, the *Dacca* Collector, I should not refuse a Proposition so reasonable as what the Nabob made; that is, That he should have an Opportunity of answering for himself. Inclosed I send you Copies of his Addresses to the Nabob, on the Subject of the Complaints against him.

*Mirza Ally Reza* is appointed Ameen to go and enquire upon the Spot; and Orders should be sent to the Chiefs at *Dacca*, *Chettigong*, and *Luckypore*, to produce what Proofs they can of the Facts complained of to the said Ameen.

I can venture to assure you, the Nabob will not be backward in punishing *Mahomed Ally*, if he proves guilty. *Toorwising*, the Amuldar of *Tangepoor*, being convicted of killing Mr. *Gray's* Gomastah, has received Sentence to be hanged at the Place where the Murder was committed; and *Sher Ally*, for endeavouring to screen him, and his ill Behaviour to our Gomastahs in general, will be dismissed from his Government of *Purnea*.

I observe what you mention concerning the Inland Trade, in your Letter to Mr. *Hastings* and me jointly; the Company's Duttuck never having been granted for those Articles of Trade by any former Governor, neither shall I think myself empowered to grant them, without the Orders of our honourable Masters; and therefore,

to prevent our being liable to have our Goods stop'd for Duties at many different Places, as is the Case with the Company's Merchants, I wish'd to have those Duties made up in the most reasonable Manner into One Sum, to be paid at One Place, before the Dispatch of the Goods; after getting what Informations we could, I agreed with the Nabob that they should be rated at 9 per Cent. upon the Purchase Price, which being paid before the Dispatch of the Goods, and the Duffluck of the Country Government taken, they should be liable to no further Demands throughout the Three Provinces.—You will observe that is less than the *Luckypoor* Gentlemen, in their Letter of the 6th November last, mention they have always paid upon Salt and Tobacco, which are the principal Objects of this Trade:—In my Way down I took an Account, from the Agents of some *Paina* and *Hogbly* Merchants, of what they had paid, and where liable to pay, for the Salt under their Charge; by which you will perceive that the *Sicary* Duties only, without reckoning the Duffluck taken at the several Chokeyes, amounts, by the lowest of the several Informations, to more than 25 Rupees per 100 M<sup>ts</sup>.—I have sent Copy of this Account to the Nabob, and recommended to free the Merchants in general from such a Variety of Demands, by receiving from them in like Manner a reasonable Rate of Customs in One Place only.

I Yesterday sent for the principal Shroffs of the City, and enquired of them, Why they refused to exchange

the *Calcutta* Siccas; and, as they are struck with the Name of *Murshedabad*, how they could distinguish them from those which are struck in the *Murshedabad* Mint? They replied, That the Stamps were not so well made at *Calcutta*, and that the Rupees for the most Part are too broad and thin, by which they could easily distinguish them—I desired Mr. *Baifon* to send for some, and upon Examination found the Observation of the Shroffs to be very true; however they agreed to receive them, and promised to do so in future. The Nabob's Deputy was present, and assured me he would enforce it, whenever Mr. *Baifon* may apply to him; but it is necessary that our Mintmaster take all possible Care to make our Rupees equal in every Respect to those of *Murshedabad*; and, if possible, so alike, that they may not be distinguished one from the other.

Having received from Mr. *Anyatt* the News of the *French* Chiffiers in *Balafore* Road, I shall set out from hence To-morrow Morning, with Relays of Bearers to *Mirzapoor*, from whence I shall proceed in a light Boat to *Calcutta*; so that I shall possibly arrive as soon as this Letter.

I left Major *Adams* at *Paina*, and he intends to return by the *Pachab* Road.

I have the Honour to be, with Esteem,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Henry Vanfittart*.

*Coffimbuzar,*

13th January 1763.

## Nº 37.

*Mr. Vanfittart's Remarks on Proceedings of the Board, on Consultation 1 February 1763, Fort William.*

I Have read with great Surprise the Minutes of your Consultation of the 17th ult. upon Messrs. *Johnston* and *Hay's* Letter of the 14th, and upon the *Dacca* Letter of the 10th, accompanied with my Answer to the Nabob upon the Subject of the supposed Regulations for the private Inland Trade; I will endeavour to point out the Wrong you have done me, and the Injustice, as well as the Indecency, of the Reflections with which Messrs. *Johnston* and *Hay's* said Letter is filled; and I wonder it should escape your Censure, much more that they should gain upon your Approbation.

The honourable the Court of Directors, as well as their Servants here, have always understood a Distinction between the Trade in Articles imported, and to be exported, by Shipping, and the private Inland Trade; that is, the Trade from Place to Place in the Country, in Commodities produced and consumed in the Country, of which Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, are the chief Articles. For the former Trade the Company's Duffluck has always been granted; but the latter has been carried on with the Duffluck of the Country Government, and their Duties paid; but those Duties being different in different Places, and even varied at the same Place, according to the Disposition and Authority of the Nabob's Collector, and the Degree with which the *English* Gomastah could back his Refusal, a fixed Resolution was thought necessary, to prevent numberless Disputes occasioned by this Commerce in different Parts of the Province. Our honourable Masters have expressly ordered, in more than one of their Letters, that the Trade in Salt and Beetle Nut shall not be carried on to the Prejudice of the Revenues of the Country Government; and yourselves, Gentlemen, in your Letter of the 15th November, transmitted me a List of the Shawbunder Duties, paid by the Gentlemen at *Luckypore* upon Salt and Tobacco, in order to assist me in finally settling these Matters with the Nabob upon a solid Plan: Can that Plan be solid where Nothing is fixed; and

where the *English* Gomastahs shall be under no Controul; but, regarding themselves far above the Magistrates of the Country where they reside, take upon themselves to decide, not only their own Disputes with the Merchants and Inhabitants, but those also of one Merchant or Inhabitant with another? Or is it possible the Government can collect their due Revenues in such Circumstances?

The Plan for carrying on the private inland Trade, contained in my Letter to the Nabob, is the same in Substance as the Articles which in my joint Letter with Mr. *Hastings* of the 15th December, we mentioned to have propoised to the Nabob. It is such a Plan as seemed to me to be conformable to the Company's Intentions in respect to that Trade, most consistent with the true Rights and Interests of their Servants here, and with common Reason and Equity; and I call on you, Gentlemen, in the first Place, to prove that I have assumed a Right to which I was no ways authorized, that the Regulations propoised are dishonourable to you as *Englishmen*, or tend to the Ruin of all public or private Trade; which are the Terms in which you have been pleased to express your Opinion: And, in the second Place, to form a Plan yourselves, which shall be more conformable to the good Purposes before mentioned; and without Regard to which, I am persuaded our honourable Masters will not give the Sanction of their Approbation to this new Trade. Form such a Plan, Gentlemen, and I will subscribe to you with Pleasure, and engage the Nabob will do so too.

For my own Part, I think that the Honour and Dignity of our Nation would be better maintained by a scrupulous and careful Restraint of the Duffluck, than by extending it beyond its usual Bounds; and putting our Gomastahs under some Checks, than by suffering them to exercise an Authority in the Country, every one according to the Means put into his Hands, and thereby bringing an Odium upon the Name of the *English*, by repeated Violences done by the *English*.

The *Dacca* Gentlemen, in their Letter of the 10th, represent, That they shall suffer greatly if such Regulations take Place. It is not as to the Duty they complain, but the being obliged to apply to the Nabob's Officers for Dufftucks, and having their Gomastahs or Servants subjected to the Jurisdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcheries. The Gentlemen at *Calcutta* have never found any Difficulty in getting the *Hougly* Dufftuck, for our Salt to go up the Country; nor have we ever thought it either inconvenient or dishonourable to apply for it to the Officers of the Government: This is the only Article we deal in here that falls under the Description of the inland Trade: The *Dacca* Gentlemen either do not, or will not, understand that Description; they say the Chief is enjoined by the Governor's Letter to the Nabob, not to give a Dufftuck for any Article that is the Produce of *Bengal*, and to pay a Duty of 9 per Cent. to the Nabob on every Merchandize not brought in or sent by Sea. The Distinction mentioned in my Letter to the Nabob is, that all Goods imported, or for Exportation, by Shipping, shall go as usual with the Company's Dufftuck, and be subject to no Kind of Demands; and all Goods, the Produce of this Country, for inland Trade, shall pay Duties to the Country Government, and go with their Dufftuck. Now the principal Articles of this inland Trade are, as I have mentioned in all my Letters to the Board, Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, produced and bought in one Part of this Country, and sent to other Parts of the same Country for Sale and Consumption; Articles which, before the Troubles, we were forbid to trade in, but which our Influence since has enabled us to deal in, although with many Objections from the Country Government, and frequent Complaints from the Country Merchants, who used to live by that Trade; however, it has never been regarded as a Part of our Firmamun Privilege, and we have been contented to carry it on with the Dufftuck of the Country Government, and paying their Duties. The present Regulation is intended only to give us a confirmed Right to a Benefit heretofore always disputed, and upon Terms which seem to me very reasonable.

Now as to the Gomastahs, it is proposed in my Letters to the Nabob, that Orders shall be given to forbid them injuring the Country People or Inhabitants, or protecting the Dependants and Servants of the Sircar; that in Case of their having a Dispute with, or Complaint against, any Merchant or Inhabitant of the Country, they shall lay such Dispute or Complaint before the Officer of the Government, to be determined in the proper Course of the Jurisdiction of the Country; and in like Manner, if any one should have a Dispute with, or Complaint against, the Gomastah, the Gomastah shall appear before the Officer of the Government, to have it settled: In both Cases, if the Gomastah thinks himself aggrieved by the Decision, he may appeal to his Employer, and he to the Governor at *Calcutta*. Nothing here is meant to affect, or can affect, our Rights over the Weavers, who received Advances for the Company's Cloth, and who having nothing to do with Rents or Employments under the Country Government, are not understood to be their Dependants or Servants, and therefore may and ought to be protected against any unjust Demands of the Government's Officers, at the Discretion of the Chief of the Factory to which they belong: But it is not to these Gomastahs so many Acts of Oppression are charged; their Business is plain and simple; they have only to make the usual Advances to the Weavers, and see that they perform their Contracts, and being immediately under the Eye of one or other of the Factories, they cannot be guilty of great Extravagancies; the Complaints come from the distant Corners of the Province, as *Rampore*, *Purnea*, *Dinagpore*, *Rangamaty*, *Gualparah*, *Silet*, *Backerganga*, &c. where, if those Complaints are true, the *English* Gomastahs being under no Controul of their Masters, despise and ill treat the Officers of the

Government, set themselves up for Judges and Magistrates, hear Disputes between the Inhabitants, and extort Fines; force the Merchants to buy their Goods at more than the Market Price, and to sell what they require as much below it: The Complaints I have received of this Sort are innumerable; I have done my utmost to find out the Truth and get Redress, and put an End to them, by forwarding Copies to the Chief of the Factory nearest the Place where the Cause of Complaint has arisen, and desiring him to enquire into it; but for the most Part I have got no other Satisfaction than the Gomastahs flat Denial of the Facts: The Place being very distant, a proper Examination of Witnesses is almost impossible, either before this Board, or any of the Subordinates; how then are such Disputes to be settled, or the Truth discovered? I am far from saying that the Method I have proposed is free from Objections, because I am sensible that many of the Officers of the Government will not exercise their Authority impartially, and many will gladly take every Opportunity of obstructing our Gomastahs, and particularly in this Commerce; but I cannot think of a better Plan; and it is certainly more agreeable to Reason, and the Practice of all Nations, the Jurisdiction should be in the Hands of proper Officers of the Government, than of our Agents and Gomastahs, who are permitted to reside there only as trading Factors, and where neither the Laws of our Country, nor the Powers intrusted to us by the Company, do give us any judicial Authority.

I wish, Gentlemen, you may form a better Plan; since you do not approve of mine; but if it should appear that this Trade cannot be carried on without investing our Gomastahs with an armed Force, and Authority to exercise that Force over the Inhabitants at their Discretion, I think it should be forbid; and we content ourselves with carrying on our Trade as far as the Company carry theirs, and so far we shall be sure of the Protection of their Forces, under the Direction of one or other of the Factories, who will be answerable to the Board for the Use they make of them, which the Gomastahs are not, and therefore such an Authority should not be trusted in their Hands.

Messrs. *Johnson*, *Hay*, and *Balts*, complain, that I sent a Person to enquire into the Truth of the Complaint against the *English* Gomastahs in the Country, and they dignify a poor Banyan with the Title of an Inquisitor. My Letter to those Gentlemen from *Mongbeer* will shew the only Authority with which that Person was invested; and as they have not laid before you a Copy of the Letter, I have subjoined it herewith, as it is at least as material as some of those Pieces they refer to. As soon as this Inquisitor returns, his Report shall be laid before you; and, as every Step I can take for the Redress of the Inhabitants of the Country is complained of as an Encroachment upon the Privileges of the *English*, and also proves ineffectual, I shall for the future lay all the Petitions from the Inhabitants before the Board, hoping that by your Resolutions some effectual Method will be provided for restraining the Excesses of the Gomastahs: The most material of those that have lately been presented to me are herewith annexed; and I think the putting a Stop to any Abuses that may be practised under the Authority of the *English* Flag, is an Attention so worthy of this Government, that one or more Members of the Board, or some of the senior Servants, should be sent to inform themselves upon the Spot how far the Complaints are true, and make their Report to the Board.

Messrs. *Johnson* and *Hay* assert, That the Nabob's ordering the *Rangamaty* Fouzedar to receive the usual Duties on Goods for Inland Trade, is contrary to our Treaty with the Nabob, and reduces us again to those Privileges we enjoyed before the Time of *Mier Jaffer*. I have referred more than once to the Treaty with the Nabob *Jaffer Aly Cawn*, and do not find that it grants us any new Privileges of Trade; and Colonel *Clive*, who

who certainly understood that Treaty as well as any one, never would grant a Duffuck for Salt, or any other Article of Trade, which had not usually been granted by former Governors.

Messrs. *Johnson* and *Hay* insinuate, throughout their Letter, in Terms not to be misunderstood, that my Reason for wishing to restrain other Gentlemen's Gomastahs, is, that my own may have the more Power, and procure for me the greatest Profit: Although I am satisfied, that such Insinuations would obtain little Credit, yet it may not be improper to produce some Instances, that I suffer equally with others, when any Obstructions do happen in our Trade; and that I am the first to practise, upon my own Concerns, the Restraint which I think should upon our Gomastahs in general. For the first, I appeal to Mr. *Amoyt*, whether a Number of Boats of Salt, belonging to me, were not stopped at *Cutwa*, by the Collector of the Gout, at the same Time with others, and detained as long. For the last, I refer to my Orders of the 17th December, and 10th January, to Mr. *Moore*, my Agent at *Rungpore*, and Mr. *Baillie*, at *Rangamaty*; of which Copies are heretofore annexed.

As you have been pleased to give us your Opinion, that Messrs. *Johnson*, *Hay*, and *Bolts*, did properly, in writing a Letter to *Sheer Aly*, the Fouzeedar of *Purnea*, in their own Name, instead of applying to the President, of Course every other Merchant will take the same Authority. I am by no means sorry to be relieved from the Trouble of such Applications, yet I think it my Duty to give it as my Opinion, that this intire Leveling and Equality will not be for the Good of the Company's Affairs, nor for the Benefit of the Society; and therefore do declare my Disapprobation.

One Reason Messrs. *Johnson* and *Hay* give for writing this Letter, deserves to be taken Notice of; An Unwillingness in the President to believe Complaints of this Nature. I request the Board will call upon them to produce any one Instance where I have refused or delayed to give them, or any other Merchant, every

Assistance they have asked of me, in the carrying on their private Buiness, and obtaining Redress for their Grievances.

In short, Gentlemen, their Letter throughout is so injurious to me as a Gentleman (to say nothing of my Station) that I should have applied to you for Justice against them, did I not perceive, that, instead of shewing your Displeasure at such Behaviour, you have thought proper to give it the Sanction of your Approbation. I refer myself therefore to the honourable the Court of Directors, who, I am persuaded, will do me more Justice.

I shall be glad to see the Number of Members at the Board increased, and with it could always be kept so; but if I had proposed to send for particular Members from the Subordinates, to give their Opinion on a particular Subject, I should surely be accused of an Intention to make a Majority to carry a particular Point: and it is a Precedent that may be at some Time applied to that Purpose, and therefore I think a bad one.

As to the Major, he is to be a Member of the Board, according to our honourable Masters Directions, when Military Affairs are in Debate: How a Regulation of a Method for carrying on our Trade in Salt, and Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, can be brought under that Title, I cannot conceive; nor how he can be supposed to be a Judge of such a Subject. Yet if you conceive his Advice can be of Use, I am far from objecting to his being present. The Matter in question is not with me a Point of Contest or Party; I wish only to see such Rules laid down, that the Nabob and we may know our proper Limits, and prevent our Servants from transgressing them; which will require both Time and Patience, and much Care and Attention. The best Laws will be sometimes transgressed; but the Inconveniences which arise from such Transgressions ought not to be objected against the Laws themselves, but against the Transgressors, who can only be restrained by the constant Care of Government.

## N<sup>o</sup> 38.

Fort William, 3 February 1763.

MR. *Amoyt* lays before the Board the following Minute, in Reply to that which the President delivered in, last Council Day:

In Consequence of my having presided at this Board during the Absence of Mr. *Vansittart*, I shall now take the Liberty to reply, in Part, to the Minute which he laid before Council on the 1st Instant.

First, as to the Subject of his Letter to the Nabob, in respect to the Transaction therein contained, I shall leave it to be debated and determined at the full Board, when the rest of the Members arrive; and when, I make not the least Doubt, having received the Assistance of their Deliberations, but we shall be enabled to form a Set of Regulations equally equitable with the President's, and every Way as conducive to the Interest of the Country Government and our own; and, I trust, of a much greater Tendency to prevent future Jealousies and Animositities between us, of which the Clause for subjecting us so thoroughly to their Judicature must have proved an inexhaustible Source.

What I have therefore chiefly to point out, is, that the President, in this Transaction, has acted without a proper Authority. It was but last Council Day, Gentlemen, that the Proceedings in this Affair were read at our Board; and although I gave the greatest Attention to the Perusal, I could not distinguish that we vested

the President with the Powers he pretends; nay, I observe that he himself can only pick out one Phrase to answer his Purpose; from perverting even the literal Sense of which, and entirely the well-known Meaning of the Board, he draws a Sanction of ours for what he has done. Right sorry am I to find that Recourse is had to playing upon Words, because I think it is a Custom which ought to be utterly excluded, in Matters so serious as generally prove the Buiness of this Board; and Orders from them which are not explicit should rather be scrupulously followed, than in a vague and unlimited Sense. It is needless to enlarge much more on the Subject; for our Proceedings on Receipt of the Articles from the President and Mr. *Hastings* (which we then understood to be only proposed) plainly demonstrate that we never gave, or intended to give, them Power to conclude those, or any other; of course, the President's doing it was an Authority assumed: But, if he could so well understand the Meaning of the Board in the above Particular, and act in consequence, how happens it, I should be glad to know, that their Directions and earnest Recommendations for procuring Restitution for the late Losses of any Individuals, were not paid an equal Regard to.

Next, with respect to the Letter delivered in by Messrs. *Johnson* and *Hay* (which I always held as a mere secondary Matter, but which I find the President has expatiated upon very largely) I must in the Name of the Board

Board deny that it met from them the Approbation which he alleges. Their Minute, of which I think the Sense cannot well be perverted, ferving no further than to expreis their Opinion, that the Apology of thofe Gentlemen was, for the Tranfaction in question, to them fa-

tisfactory. Although I cannot implicitly agree with the President, that the said Letter is filled with unjuft and indecent Reflections, yet I concur entirely that our honourable Matters fhould become the Judges in this, as of all our other Proceedings.

N<sup>o</sup> 39.

From Nabob *Caffim Ally Cawn* to Mr. *Vanfittart*.

February 22 1763.

I Received your friendly Letter, which gave me much Pleasure. You write, that concerning the Inland Trade of this Country (that is to fay) Salt, Tobacco, Beetle Nut, dried Fish, which being purchafed in this Country fhall be carried for Sale to other Parts of the Country, a Duty of 9 per Cent. was agreed between me and you to be paid; but that the Phouftars and Managers do not regard it, but that they want to put a Stop to the whole Trade; likewise, that they demand Duties on Cloth, &c. belonging to the Company, having a Duffuck with the Company's Seal, and which never was known to pay Duties; that *Shake Hybut*, a Peon upon *Ramkunt Holdar*, your own private Gomastah at *Pantipoor*, did not regard the Company's Duffuck, but by Force took from him the Amount of 110 Rupees on Account Duties, and as yet has not taken off the Peon; alfo that *Kaujab Akafuk*, who through the Means of *Kaujab Warrens* was appointed to tranfact your own private Buſinefs at *Jangymagur*, and had, agreeable to the Company's Duffuck, provided 30 Bales of Cloth, 28 of which he ſent firſt, and afterwards the Two others; but that *Mahomed Ally Beg Tyffaidar* intercepted, and detained, and demanded Duties thereon: And defiring I would ſpeedily write very fully to all the Phouzdars and Managers concerning this, not to take Duties on any thing without Reaſon.—What you write, I underſtood.—The Tranſlates of your Gomastah's Letter I have ſeen.

The Whole of the Diſpute is this: The Merchants, &c. whoſe Names are entered in my Office, always pay

Duties. Now you purchaſe Goods through their Means; therefore the Managers to the Government know not whether the Goods belong to you or the Merchants. Through the Will of God, your Gomastahs and Houſes are every where; therefore, why do not you purchaſe and ſell Goods through the Means of your own Gomastahs, and your own Houſes; and if the Merchants were to have no Share in it, no Noiſe or Diſpute could poſſibly ariſe. Goods being purchaſed from the Merchants, who always paid Duties on the Goods they bought and ſold, and now do not, is the Cauſe of theſe Diſputes.—Therefore you will pleaſe to defer trading with thofe Merchants, who from former Time have belonged to the Government; then there will be no Diſputes between your People and mine.

Incloſed.

I have wrote very fully to the Managers at *Nadia*, *Dacca*, &c. not in any Reſpect whatever to intercept or moleſt any Goods belonging to the Company, at any of their Places of Trade, having a Company's Duffuck with them. If any of the Managers belonging to the Government ſhould be uncertain, whether the Goods belong to the Company, or the Gentlemen, or the *Engliſh* Gomastahs, and do not ſee the Company's Duffuck, what can I do? For which Reaſon, ſhould the Managers belonging to the Sircar, if the Company's Duffuck is produced, interrupt Goods, or diſregard my *Perwanah*, the Gomastahs belonging to the *Engliſh*, through their own Pleaſure or Pride, will not ſhew the Company's Duffuck; therefore direct all the Gomastahs very fully not to delay thewung the Duffuck.

N<sup>o</sup> 40.

Instructions to Meſſieurs *Amyatt* and *Hoy*.

To Peter *Amyatt*, and William *Hoy*, Eſquires.

Fort William, the 28th March 1763.

Gentlemen,

1. THE Trade of our Factories on Behalf of the Company, as well as the Inland Trade carried on by the Agents and Gomastahs of *Engliſh* Merchants, having for ſome Months paſt met with the greateſt Interruptions in all Parts of the Country, from the Officers of the Nabob's Government, and this having further proved the Source of numerous Diſputes and Complaints on both Sides; we have had under Conſideration the ſettling of certain Rules, agreeable to our reſpective Rights and Pretentions, whereby to carry on our Trade, and be the Means of preventing ſuch Diſputes from happening in future in theſe Points: We have already come to ſome Regulations; and having the greateſt Reliance on your Abilities, Prudence, and

Zeal, as well for the Intereſt of our honourable Maſters, as for the Welfare and Good of the Community, we have thought proper to depute you to make known to the Nabob theſe Reſolutions.

2. In the Firſt Place, you muſt again acquaint the Nabob, that the Regulations made with him by the Preſident being diſapproved, are of Courſe become void; and you are therefore to re-demand the Letter which contained them; you are alſo to inſiſt, in Caſe he has not before iſſued ſuch Orders, that he do revoke all thoſe Orders which he ſent to his Officers in Conſequence of the ſaid Regulations; and inform him, that Trade is in every Reſpect to go on in its uſual Channel, until he (the Nabob) has ſettled with you the Buſineſs of your Deputation.

3. Accompanying this you will receive *Engliſh* and *Persian* Copies of the Pharmaun and Huſbulhookums and Treaties, on which we found a Right to Free Trade;

Trade; these we have concluded, give us an indisputable Privilege for any of our Trades, as well foreign as inland, throughout the Provinces of this Subah, free of any Deductions to the Country Government; you must therefore carefully and clearly explain to the Nabob, the Tenor and Substance of all those Grants, and the Justice that it follows we have on our Side for abiding thereby.

4. When you have fully asserted and convinced the Nabob of these our Rights and Privileges, you will make known to him the Resolution of Council the 2d Instant, for allowing him a Duty on Salt, with our Motives therefor; First, Because, from general Informations taken, it appears this Article has, from Custom, always paid a certain, though unsettled, Duty. Secondly, Because it is not our Intention, through too scrupulous an Assertion of our Rights, to detriment or diminish the Revenues of this Government, or in any Respect to lessen to him the Advantages reaped at our Hands by his Predecessors, the former Subahs; that, allowing these Sentiments to weigh as far with us as the Regard for the Interests of our Employers and the Community, and for the Tenor of our said Grants, will possibly admit, we have resolved to allow him (the Nabob) a fixed Duty on the Article of Salt, at Two and a Half per Cent. on the Rowannah Price; but as we have no Grounds for extending this Consideration further, we cannot admit of Duties being levied on any other Articles of Trade whatsoever.

5. To ascertain the Payment of this Duty, and at the same Time maintain in its full Force the Authority of the *English* Duffuck, the Article of Salt shall be circulated equally with other Articles, by Means of a Duffuck, and be liable to no further Scrutiny or Interruption; provided the Buckbunder or Shawbunder, for the aforementioned Duty, appears properly granted, and entered on the Back thereof.

6. For regulating in future the Conduct of our Agents and Gomastahs, and the Officers and Dependants of the Nabob's Government, with respect to Injuries committed on either Side, and Disputes which may arise between them, we have agreed on the following Rules, which you must intimate to the Nabob; and as we think they will every Way answer the Ends required, you must acquaint him, that they are therefore to be punctually observed.

7. The Nabob having lately affected an Ignorance of the Nature of this Government, and the Powers of the Council, the President, in his Answer, endeavoured to set him right on that Head; but it will still be necessary that you again explain this Matter personally to him, by Commission from the Board, that future Pretensions of the like Ignorance may not be the Means of detriming our Affairs.

8. There further appears, in the Course of his Correspondence, certain Expressions which imply a Diffidence of the Friendship of several Members of the Council towards him; these ill-founded Suspicions you must use your most strenuous Endeavours to remove; and, on the contrary, to convince him, that we shall be always, with One Voice, agreeable to assist and support him and his Government, provided no Attempts are made towards the Infringement of our Rights and Privileges; but that from a just Observance of them, and a steady Obedience to the repeated Orders of our Employers, we can never

put up with Attempts that have in the smallest Degree such Tendency.

9. With respect to the Regulations for Trade, we think it will be the most proper Method to have our Rights acknowledged, and under the Nabob's own Hand and Seal, taking Care that there is no Expressions inserted in it contrary to the Sense we entertain of our Rights by our former Grants or Treaties, or that may tend, in any Degree, to invalidate them. To such Writings you may accede, referring to us the Power of finally ratifying the same.

10. As we think it absolutely necessary, both for the Interest of our Affairs and the Nabob's, to have a Gentleman in the Service, Resident at his Court, we have appointed Mr. *Thomas Amplett* to accompany you in the Deputation, and afterwards remain with the Nabob in that Capacity; you will therefore introduce him to the Nabob accordingly, and acquaint him, that all Transactions between him and us are, after your Departure, to be carried on by this Resident; and that all Orders which are to be issued through the Country, relating to the *English*, are to be first intimated to, and approved by, him. At your Departure you will leave in Charge with Mr. *Amplett* any Part of these Instructions which you may not be able to finish, and give him such further Directions as you may think necessary.

11. Having had repeated Instances of the ill Disposition and bad Behaviour of *Mahomed Aly*, the Collector of the *Dacca* Districts, we here inclose you a particular Proof, in Copies of Letters which he wrote to *Syed Bud-dul Cawn*; and we must desire that you will insist on his being dismissed from his Office, and obliged to make Reparation for all the Losses he has been the Occasion of, since the Beginning of these Disturbances.

12. The Orders by which we took Possession of the Lands being only *Amulnamas*, we must desire, that you will apply to the Nabob for proper *Laqueeny Sunnuds*, to confirm the Company's Right to the Three Provinces.

13. You must likewise demand from the Nabob Payment of a Sum of Money which *Mahomed Rexa Cawn* disbursed out of the Revenues of the *Chittagong* Province, on Account of the *Tippesa* Expedition; to instruct you in which, we have ordered the Particulars to be transmitted you by the Accountant of the Committee of Lands.

14. Since we began to draw up those Instructions, we have received Intelligence of the Nabob's having published a *Sunnud*, containing an Exemption from all Duties on every Kind of Trade, for the Space of Two Years; Copies of the *Sunnud*, and a *Perwannah*, which accompanied it, to *Nobut Roy*, the Naib of *Patna*, you will receive herewith; and, as we are of Opinion, that this Step is taken with a Design to prejudice the Company's trading Business, and counteract the Measures we have been hitherto taking for the Welfare of Trade in general, we desire that you will insist on the Nabob's revoking that *Sunnud*, and collecting Duties as before.

15. We further transmit Copy of a Minute entered on this Day's Consultation by Messieurs *Jaybstone* and *Hay*, and we desire you will make the Enquiry therein recommended.

We wish you Success in your Deputation; and are, with Esteem, &c.

N<sup>o</sup> 41.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflitter*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,  
YOUR Favour of the 24th *ultimo* we received the ad Instant, and immediately dispatched the Letter inclosed therein to the Nabob: As far as we can judge, he inclines not to pacific Measures; for since the Receipt of your Letters of the 7th and 11th *ultimo*, he has been constantly sending Troops into this City. The Commanders of his Forces, in different Parts of the Country hereabouts, are under Orders to assemble at *Patna*, and some of them actually in Motion, by which it seems as if he intended a Blow at this Party; on that Head however we are perfectly easy, but under the deepest Concern for the Fate of the City, which we are hourly apprehensive will be plundered by the licentious undisciplined Rabble within its Walls. The Suburbs are already entirely deserted, and the wretched Situation of People of all Ranks is more easy to conceive than describe.

*Meer Minda Cawn* is the Name of the Person whom the Nabob has appointed his Naib here; but to this Time he has not paid the Chief the usual Compliment of acquainting him with his Arrival. He carries on the Preparations for Attack or Defence (for as yet we know not which to call them) with more Vigour than his Predecessor, and thereby adds to the Terror and Alarm of

the Inhabitants—The Night before last the Whole of his People were under Arms on the Walls, and firing their Guns and Small Arms till Morning; great Part of Yesterday the Gates were kept shut, and the Relief of our Hospital Guard refused Admittance; upon which the Chief wrote him a Letter, a Copy of it we now inclose, as likewise of his Answer. The Guard has been since admitted, but the *Burbuma* Gate still remains shut.

It is commonly talked that the Nabob has sent this *Minda Cawn* to drive out the *English*; but your Honour, &c. will judge that there is not much Danger to be apprehended from a Man, whose Talent seems chiefly to lie in founding his own Praises; his Insolence may however reduce us to the disagreeable Necessity of taking the City from him.

With the greatest Difficulty we have collected Money sufficient to pay our *Europeans* for this Month, and our *Seapoys* for March, and have not at this Time a single Rupee in Cash. We therefore request your Honour, &c. will take the most speedy Method of supplying us.

We are with Respect,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

*Patna*, the  
5th April 1763.

*W. Ellis,*  
*Henry Lubington,*  
*Samuel Hewitt,*  
*W. Smith.*

N<sup>o</sup> 42.

\*Fort William Consultations, 14 April 1763.

THE Board being come to concert the Measures proper to be taken, in Case that a Rupture should happen between us and the Nabob, the several Cases were fully considered and debated on; and the following Resolutions were in Consequence planned and agreed.

Although it is to be hoped that the Disputes with the Nabob will yet come to an amicable Issue, it is thought necessary to be prepared with a Plan of Operations, which may be most expedient to ensure Success, in Case of a contrary Event.

It is therefore resolved, First, That in Case of a Rupture with the Nabob, and the Nabob should march towards *Patna*, in order to attack our Troops and Factory there, they shall endeavour to possess themselves of the City, if they think they can possess themselves of it without much Loss, and there remain until they receive further Orders from us or Major *Adams*, but if they should by attacking the City think they run a Risk of failing in the Attempt, or losing of many Men, they must then take such Post as they think they can best defend themselves in; and if they can, cover the Factory until they shall receive further Orders as above mentioned; that in either Case they must be careful to secure all the Provision they can of every Kind, and also Draught and Carriage Bullocks.

Secondly, That in Case of a Rupture with the Nabob, and he shall remain at *Mongher*, the *Patna* Party shall act as in the First Case.

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Thirdly, That in Case of a Rupture, and the Nabob marches down this Way, the *Patna* Party shall, after attacking and possessing themselves of the City, move down as far as *Rocoonnullab*, to be in greater Readiness to join Major *Adams*, and there wait for Orders from Major *Adams*, unless from an Alteration of Circumstances their own Discretion shall direct them to act otherwise.

That in any of the foregoing Cases these are our present Thoughts; but that we do not mean by such a Plan to restrict them from taking any Advantage that may happen, in Case of a Rupture declared.

This Plan being settled for the *Patna* Party in Case of a Rupture, the Question is put,

How they shall be informed of a Rupture, or what they shall contrive as such?

Mr. *Johnstone* thinks the Nabob's stopping our Communication by Letter, and moving in Consequence with his Army and Artillery towards *Patna*, when there is no other Enemy in the Country adjacent, against whom he may have cause to move, or ought in Reason to be believed, that he directs the March of his Army this Way, attended by any correspondent Act of Hostility of his Forces stationed at or round *Patna*, such as stopping their Provision or Communication with the Country, or opposing our People in the Execution of their Business; might in the present Circumstances be construed by them as a Rupture; and that they might immediately proceed to act as directed in the Plan.

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The President thinks, that Mr. *Johnstone's* Proposal is extremely vague, and leaves it in the Power of the Gentlemen at *Patna*, by an Error in Judgment, to involve us in a War, which we would rather avoid; and therefore would propose, that the Orders to the Gentlemen at *Patna* should be after this Manner: That they will be instantly informed from us, if we should be obliged to declare a Rupture with the Nabob; and that therefore they must wait for such Information before they act upon such a Plan laid down, keeping in the mean Time well on their Guard, and defending themselves and the Company's Rights against all Attacks: That he proposes these limited Orders the rather, as he looks upon the Party at *Patna* to be of such a Strength as to run no Risk from any Attack of the Nabob.

The Question being put to the rest of the Board, Which of these Opinions shall be adopted?

Messieurs *Watts*, *Marriott*, *Hastings*, *Cartier*, and *Billers*, agree to the President's.

Mr. *Baifon* is of Mr. *Johnstone's* Opinion, Because, after the Nabob has once commenced Hostilities against us, the tying up our Party at *Patna* from acting on the offensive, as well as the defensive, will give him an Advantage in Cases of Exigency that may happen.

Major *Adams* thinks that the Gentlemen at *Patna* ought not to commence Hostilities without the Orders of the Board; but that, should the Nabob march a large Force towards *Patna*, without any apparent Reason, or otherwise commit any Acts of Hostility, that they should take any Step for their own Security, even to the Taking of the City of *Patna*, if it should be deemed absolutely necessary, and there defend themselves, without proceeding further until they receive the Orders of the Board.

## N° 43.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflitart*, Esq; President, Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
WE have received your Favour of the 14th Instant, with the Resolutions of the Board, which, as far as we comprehend them, will not allow us to confer any Act of the Nabob's as hostile, although ever so greatly tending to our Ruin; but are to wait until we have Notice from you of a Rupture being declared, although who there may be then to receive your Commands is hard to say; but most probably neither any of us, nor of the Party now here, as we shall clearly evince.

We have had good Intelligence (not from *Harkarahs*) that if the Army should move from *Calcutta*, the Nabob intends marching here to attack us; in which Case he will instantly remove our Dawkes, and cut off all Communication by that Channel. It will be the Third Day of his March before we can receive certain Advice of it, and a single Caffid will be Twelve Days reaching *Calcutta*, provided he meets with no Impediment; but it is more probable that at such a Juncture he never gets there; and still more so, that your Answer never reaches us. How then are we to act? This Factory, it is well known, is not tenable if attacked from the City, and to abandon it will, amongst many other Evils, give such a Shock to the Spirit of our Troops, as may induce the greatest Part of our *Sapoys* (in whom our principal Strength consists) to desert us, and go over to the Nabob, where they are better ensured of Success, and will meet with ample Encouragement, which has not been spared, even when there was no Appearance of a Rupture, to those who would desert with their Arms. Another substantial Reason why we cannot leave the Factory is, our having sent our Ammunition, for its greater Security, in the lower Part of the House, the Magazine where it before lay being liable to be blown up by a common Rocket.

But let us suppose for a Moment, that on the Nabob's marching against us we quit the Factory and take Post, are we to sacrifice our Surgeons and Sick, who reside in the City; for it cannot be supposed that they will be permitted to come out, or if they could, the Situation of most of them is such, that they being brought into the Air will be attended with certain Death: When we have fortified ourselves in this Post, our Affairs are not at all mended, for the Nabob has only to surround and

starve us, whilst we, dying by Inches, sit waiting for your Orders, which can never arrive but with the Army, and that at the soonest will be Forty Days after his March from *Mongbeer*. How are we to subsist all this Time? The Nabob seizes all Provisions coming from *Bengal*; and such is the Scarcity here, that had it not been for the Gunge which so much Pains was taken to abolish, we had long ere now been obliged to take up Arms to procure our daily Sustenance; but was there Plenty, we have not a Rupee to purchase it. With the utmost Difficulty we have scraped Money together to pay our Troops for these Two Months past, and at this Time have not sufficient to discharge a Fourth Part of the Demands that will be upon us in a few Days, although we acquainted your Honour, &c. of the Lowness of our Cash so long ago as the 2d of February.

This Party, 'tis true, runs no Risk of the Nabob, provided we are allowed to act, and make the most of every Advantage that may offer; but if our Hands are tied, our Destruction becomes inevitable; such a Body as this must ever act offensively and vigorously, and nip the Designs of their Enemy in the Bud; 'tis by such Conduct only that they can hope to preserve themselves; and surely it is just and laudable to make Use of any Means Providence has put in our Power, to defeat the Attacks of a cruel and faithless Enemy.

Our Safety lies in mastering the City by a Coup de Main, before the Nabob gets into it, for afterwards it may be impracticable; and the Consequence of our acting on the defensive, any where but in the City, we have already pointed out. Our Distance from *Calcutta* is very great, and whenever the Nabob marches this Way, our Communication will be cut off, and most probably not opened but by your Army: Is therefore we should obey Nature's First Law, we hope we shall not be found culpable, though it may not perfectly coincide with your Honour, &c.'s Orders.

We cannot conclude, without observing to your Honour, &c. that we think we have no Ways merited the Diffidence you express, nor given the least Reason even to suspect, that we would involve the Company in a War by any rash or unpremeditated Step; we rather think that we have given Proofs of a contrary Disposition, in bearing the many Insults we have received, particularly since *Mundy Ali Cawn* has been appointed Naib here, whose People have even dared to abuse and call us opprobrious Names, aloud from the Walls.



We shall be as far as any, to whom the Management of the Company's Affairs are intrusted, from bringing them into Difficulties; but when it is really necessary, shall endeavour to act with a Spirit that becomes Subjects of Britain, and Servants of her greatest commercial Body.

Your Honour, &c.'s Letters are always One, and often Two, Days earlier in Date than any others from Calcutta, which gives the Nabob a great Advantage over us in Point of Intelligence. We therefore request you will

order them to be dispatched with the utmost Expedition.

We are with Respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

W. Ellis,  
Henry Lushington,  
Samuel Hewitt,  
W. Smith.

Patna, 24th April 1763.

N<sup>o</sup> 44.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflitart*, Esq; President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,  
We waited on the Nabob the 15th, to acquaint him of your Resolutions; and in conversing on the different Articles, we found it impossible to discuss separately on them; and he desiring us to write down what we had to say to him, we delivered to him a *Persian* Translation we had made of our Instructions; the same being read, he desired we would leave it with him, as also the *Phirmaunds*, &c. which we acquiesced to. The next Evening he sent his *Moonshy*, *Hafiz Isserat Cawn*, to us, to desire we would sign that *Persian* Translation, or draw out a List of such Demands as we were commissioned to get complied with, which we accordingly did, and sent it to him, signed and sealed (Copy of which is here inclosed.) We again waited on him this Morning, to desire his Answer if he would comply with these Articles, and give us the Satisfaction required; he replied, It would take up some Time to consider on them, and desired Two Days to give his Answer. We had a good deal of Conversation with him on different Subjects; in which it appeared, he had considered himself as in a State of War with us for some Time past, and issued Orders and made Preparations accordingly, which has been the Cause of some of the Interruptions and Insults our People have met with lately; and most of the others, he said, had been occasioned by *Mr. Vanflitart's* Letter,

which he then looked on as a Treaty the Governor had been authorized to enter into with him, which caused him to send these Orders over the Country to his *Aumils*, the executing of which we now so much complain of. We remarked to him many of these Interruptions we had laboured under before that Letter. As far as we can judge from our last Conversation, he seems somewhat convinced that our Intentions are not hostile, so long as he doth not attempt to infringe our Rights (which we have used our best Endeavours to persuade him) and gives us Satisfaction for the Losses sustained by, and Insults offered to, the *English*, by his Officers, in different Parts of the Country. This we are in Hopes he will comply with, though he makes great Use of the Argument of his having acted by *Mr. Vanflitart's* Agreement. We cannot write you at present, with any Certainty, of his Intentions, but hope to be more so in our next. We shall again wait on him for a further Conversation on the many Articles he is to comply with, before the Time appointed by him for giving his Answer, to endeavour further to convince him of the reasonable Use of them; when we shall mention to him the moving our Troops to *Patna*, which hitherto we have declined on Account of his Suspensions.

We have the Honour to be,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

P. Anjart,  
W. Hay.

Mongher,  
the 18th May 1763.

N<sup>o</sup> 45.

To the honourable *Henry Vanflitart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,  
We have not seen the Nabob these Four Days, he being indisposed, which caused us to importune him by Letters, for an Answer to the several Demands you ordered us to insist on his complying with. This Morning he sent us by *Nabut Roy*, which we now inclose you. We had before flattered ourselves, he intended giving us a favourable one; though he all along continued to insist on our People being the Aggressors, and complained of our seizing his *Aumils*, when he was always ready to redress our Grievances, without entering into just Arguments, but confining it to Occurrences lately happened, since his Orders issued in Consequence of *Mr. Vanflitart's* Letter; but he seemed to agree, by his Conversation, that the Method we now

wanted our Business to go on in, properly observed, was just; and, to Appearance, he was free from Apprehensions of our wanting to quarrel with him: That we now must conjecture his Behaviour was only to delay Time, for some Purpose or other.

The Boats with the Arms, for *Patna*, arrived here Yesterday, and were robbed by the Nabob's Chowkey: We immediately applied for their Release, and gave them a Duffuck, mentioning they contained Arms; which they have kept, and the Boats still continue detained: the Nabob promised an Answer by *Nabut Roy*, this Morning, who said, they were detained by having Arms in them.

The Letter written him To-day we have sent, hoping it will have some Effect upon his Mind, reflecting that our going away must necessarily bring on a Rupture, to prevent which it may make him hearken to Reason, and still be brought to comply with the Articles required;

quired; therefore, if he desires us to stay, and releases the Boats, we shall continue here till such Time as we receive your Orders how we are to act in case of his Non-compliance with any or every Article; but if he continues the hostile Action of detaining the Arms, we shall move from hence, either towards Bengal or Patna, as most convenient, if we have Reason to suspect his wanting to stop us.

If you send the Army, it will be necessary you take Precautions about Grain, which is very scarce, and none to be had on this Side *Muxalabad*, on this Side the

River: We take the Liberty of advising you not to think of sending the Forces through the Hills the *Patchet Way*, as it is very unwholesome, this Time of the Year, to go that Way, from the excessive Heats, as well as Interruptions from the Nullahs being full; now the Rains are coming on.

We have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

*Mongbeer,*  
26 May 1763.

*P. Amyatt,*  
*W. Hay.*

N<sup>o</sup> 46.

To the honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

**I**MAGINING we might soon be in Want of Money to defray our Charges, we applied to the Nabob for Ten Thousand Rupees, who immediately let us have it, for which we have given him a Set of Bills of Exchange for Ten Thousand *Patna* Sunnaut Rupees on you, payable at Sight.

Notwithstanding our repeated Remonstrances to his Excellency, setting forth the Hostility of the Action, he has not yet released the Boats with the Arms, neither does he shew the least Confidence in what we say, and

declares (at the same Time hinting to us the former Resolution) he shall not put any in us, till we remove the Detachment from *Patna* to *Mongbeer*. We beg Leave to offer it as our Opinion, That the having the Troops intended to be quartered in this Province stationed here, at his Request, would be very advisable, but cannot be thought of till such Time as he complies with our Demands, as it is probably made by Caprice or Design.

We have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

*Mongbeer,*  
29 May 1763.

*P. Amyatt,*  
*W. Hay.*

N<sup>o</sup> 47.

To the honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Council of *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

**T**HE inclosed is a Duplicate of our last, dated 29th Instant; on which Day we sent you a Cypher, made out here, which we imagined might be useful in carrying on our Correspondence, in Case of a Rupture: A Copy of the same was likewise forwarded to Mr. *Ellis*, at *Patna*.

Whatever we urge to his Excellency, in regard to the Release of the Boats with Arms, or the Necessity of his placing a proper Confidence in us, his general Reply is,

That we have seized his Aumils; that the Words of the *English* are not to be trusted; and that he will not release the Boats, till such Time as we remove our Troops from *Patna*, either to this Place or to *Calcutta*. Although he will take no Steps towards a Reconciliation, or to give us Satisfaction; yet he, upon all Occasions, mentions his Desire of Peace: In short, his Aim seems to be entirely to gain Time.

We have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

*Mongbeer,*  
31st May 1763.

*P. Amyatt,*  
*W. Hay.*

N<sup>o</sup> 48.

At a Consultation;

10 June 1763.

**P R E S E N T,**  
*Stanlake Baisson*, Esquire, President;  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolpb Marriott*, Esquire.

**B**EFORE the Business of the Council commenced, the Secretary reported to the Board, that after Yesterday

day's Consultation, having waited on the Governor, to get the Letter for *Messieurs Amyatt* and *Hay* transcribed in Cypher, he expressed his Sentiments to him in the following Terms: That he thought the Orders to *Mongbeer* amounted almost to a plain Declaration of War against the Nabob, and left nothing in the Power of *Messieurs Amyatt* and *Hay* to treat or promise further, even if they should find him in a Disposition to conciliate; neither contained any Instructions to them; on a Supposition that the Nabob did release the Arms, and not insist on the Removal of the Troops from *Patna* as a Preliminary;

6 Preliminary; that the Governor therefore directed the Secretary to wait on Mr. *Baifon*, at his Return to Town, and desire him to summons another Council as this Day, when he would transmit to the Board his full Opinion on this Subject, and afterwards leave to them to send such Orders as they thought proper; and that on this Account he desired the Dispatch of the Letters might be delayed till To-day: That he, the Secretary, accordingly intimated this to Mr. *Baifon*, who, in Consequence, ordered him to summons a Council, and delay the Dispatch of the Letters.

The Secretary lays before the Court the following Letter, which he this Morning received from the Governor.

To Mr. Secretary *Grabash*.

S I R,

As my late Indisposition prevents my attending the Board, I must take this Method of delivering my Opinion upon the Instructions which should be sent to Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, in Answer to the last Advices received from them.

If the Nabob persists in detaining the Boats with Arms, I think it must be deemed a declared Act of Hostility, and Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay* directed in such Case to take their Leave.

If the Nabob refuses to treat further with those Gentlemen, without removing our Troops from *Patna*, by Way of Preliminary, I think in that Case likewise they should take their Leave; as I am not for consenting to make any Change in the Station of our Troops upon such a Demand.

But supposing the Arms to be released, and that Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay* find the Nabob in a Disposition to treat, without insisting on the Removal of our Troops from *Patna*, as a Preliminary, then I think those Gentlemen should be furnished with Instructions what further to say to the Nabob; and those Instructions I think should be, with respect to the Troops at *Patna*, to represent to the Nabob, that they were stationed there with the View of being in Readiness to assist him, wherever his Affairs might require it, and that they should be ready to act in Conformity to that, as soon as the present Differences between us were accommodated; they should be further acquainted, to call upon the Nabob for his particular Objections to the several Articles or Demands delivered him; and having transmitted the same to the Board, it should be considered which of them are material to be insisted on.

Some Answer should likewise be sent to Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay* regarding *Mahomed Ally*, and the other Officers of the Government, at present kept here Prisoners: The Nabob says, As we have seized them, and have them in our Hands, we may take our own Satisfaction for the Losses some have suffered in their private Trade; we should either tell Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay* that we will do so; or else we should send those Officers up to them, with Instructions to deliver them up to the Nabob, desiring him to oblige them to make good such Losses; at the same Time receiving from the Government's Officers the Accounts of Losses they say they have suffered by the Violences of some *English* Agents and Gomastahs; and this Second Method I think the most proper.

Neither the Company's nor private Trade meets at present with any Interruption. This is an essential Reason why we ought to avoid, if possible, engaging our Employers in any expensive War, and involving

the Country in Troubles, to their great Loss; as well as that of the Settlement in general.

The low State of our Treasury, and the Peace in *Europe*, by which the *French* will be re-possessed of their Settlements in this Country, are in my Opinion strong Reasons why we should, if possible, keep on good Terms with the Nabob.

Finally, I think that further Instructions should be sent to the Gentlemen at *Patna*, concerning their Manner of acting in Case a Rupture with the Nabob should be unavoidable, with Reference I mean to the Season, which would prevent the Troops from hence marching by Land to join those at *Patna*, and going up in Boats would take up a long Time; upon this Article I submit myself to the Judgment of Major *Adams*.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,  
*Henry Vassilart.*

The same being read, and duly considered;

Agreed, That we write in Consequence a further Letter to Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, acquainting them, That supposing the Arms to be released; and they should find the Nabob inclinable still to treat, without insisting on the Removal of the Troops from *Patna*, as a Preliminary, they may assure him that those Troops have been always stationed there for the Security of his Government, and to maintain the Tranquillity of the Country, and that they shall still continue to act in Conformity to this View: That they shall then call upon the Nabob for his particular Objections to the several Articles or Demands delivered him, and transmit them to us; when we shall consider and determine which of them are so material as to require being still insisted on, and which may be moderated: That if the Nabob should again make mention of *Mahomed Ally*, and the other Prisoners here, we leave it to them to judge whether we had best prosecute the Enquiry against them ourselves, or send them up to them to have it finished in Presence of the Nabob, and to give him their Answer accordingly: That they may receive from the Government's Officers the Accounts of any Losses they say they have sustained by the Violences of *English* Agents and Gomastahs, upon their being properly authenticated; and again assure the Nabob, that for whatever appear to be just he shall receive full Satisfaction.

On the further Subject of the Governor's Letter, the Board are of Opinion, That their utmost Endeavours have been already used to prevent the Country's being involved in Troubles, or their Employers engaged in an expensive War, and that they can now only leave it to Time to satisfy them whether these Endeavours will prove effectual: That the Circumstance of a Peace in *Europe*, and the Supposition drawn from thence, that the *French* will obtain a Re-settlement here, is rather a strong Reason why we should employ the most spirited Methods to become immediately assured of the Nabob's Intention and Disposition towards us, and not delay Time in fruitless Negotiation: That with regard to the last Paragraph of the Governor's Letter, referred to the Judgment of Major *Adams*, the Major, with the rest of the Members, think it is necessary to send further Instructions to *Patna* than those contained in the Letter of Yesterday to Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, and whereof a Copy was transmitted to the Factory.

W<sup>m</sup> Billers,  
Warren Hastings,  
Rand. Marriott,  
H. Watts.

N<sup>o</sup> 49.

Fort William, 13th June 1763.

At a Consultation ;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Bickers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED a Letter from Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, dated the 6th June, advising, that the Arms still continue stopped with a strong Guard over them, and no Discourse concerning Business now passes between them and the Nabob ; that he is intirely buoyed up in the Notions of his own Strength and Power to oppose our Troops, and therefore to oppress our Trade as he pleases ; that no *English* Boats pass by *Mongher* but with much Difficulty, and after many Days Detention ; that daily some aggravating Circumstances or other happen to corroborate his Intentions of not complying with our Demands, but really designing to break with us ; that they have great Reason to suspect the *Armenians* urge him on to refuse our Measures ; that they are informed he some Days ago received 17 Chests of Arms, which were said to have come from the *Dutch* ; that he had stopped some Boats of Rice, with an *English* Duffuck, going to our Gunge at *Patna*, and has detained them under Pretence of its belonging to some Mer-

chant of his ; that there has been many Boats with *Seapys* sent towards *Bengal* within these Four Days, and all Preparations for War are making both at *Mongher* and *Patna* ; that the Nabob has received Two *Persian* Letters, the Contents of which they have not been made acquainted with, and therefore desire they may be advised thereof. Their Letter further ends with the following Paragraph in Cypher : " Notwithstanding we should not think of breaking with the Nabob, they think it impossible to avoid it, and that we should get them out of his Power as soon as possible."

In respect to the Remark which Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay* make of the Two *Persian* Letters received by the Nabob, the President desires they may be acquainted, that they were his ; One informed the Nabob of his being out of Order ; and the other contained some Particulars of the *Europe* News ; and that all his other Letters, to the best of his Recollection, have been transmitted through the Hands of Mr. *Amyatt*.

Agreed, That we write an Answer to Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, advising them, That if they continue to think a Rupture with the Nabob is unavoidable, and suspect that he may have Designs to detain them ; or would recommend to them to temporize, in any Manner they can, to get themselves out of his Hands, without declaring any thing that may give him room to imagine we have such Intentions ; and further acquaint them with the Substance of the President's Minute.

N<sup>o</sup> 50.

Fort William Consultations, 17 June 1763.

**R**ECEIVED a Letter from Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay*, dated the 8th Instant, acquainting us, that the Nabob has complained of our Troops, which are gone towards *Kachar*, having seized his Daroga, appointed for providing *Alloes* Wood and Elephants Teeth, &c. ; that he still continues to repeat, We may declare to him as often as we please our peaceful Intentions, but that he can't put any Confidence in, or believe us, till such Time as the Troops come from *Patna* ; and that they have drawn on us a Bill of Exchange for C. Rs. 2000, payable at 10 Days Sight to Mr. *Thomas Amplett*. Received also a Note in Cypher, dated the 18th, advising us that the Nabob had that Day sent a Thousand Horle towards *Moorshedabad*, and that Powder and Ball is delivered to all the Nabob's Forces at *Patna*.

Ordered, The *Mongher* Bill be accepted when tendered, and discharged when due.

Received Two Letters from Mr. *Ellis* at *Patna*, dated the 5th and 6th Instant ; the First acquainting us, that the Nabob had set about inveigling away our *Seapys*, by promising the Men double Pay, and the Officers

Promotion in Rank ; and in the Attempt has succeeded so well as to procure the Desertion of 200 Men since the First Instant, consisting of Officers and old *Seapys* : That, in order to bring all the Force he can against us, he has made up Matters with *Kamger Cowan*, and put him in Possession of his Country ; and that the *Seapys* who were stationed there, to the Number of a Thousand, are returned to *Patna*. The Second Letter advises us, that, the *Seapys* still continuing to desert in great Numbers, he has ordered the whole Party to be in Readiness to march at a Moment's Warning, and thereby intited them to *Batta*, as the only Means of putting a Stop to the Desertion.

Agreed, We add a further Paragraph to the Letter for Mr. *Ellis*, acknowledging the Receipt of these, and acquainting him, that, notwithstanding the great Expence which will be incurred by putting the Detachment on *Batta*, yet we must concur in and approve of that Measure, until the present Disputes with the Nabob are brought to an Issue.

N<sup>o</sup> 51.

The 18th June 1763.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanstuart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED this Day the following Letters from Messieurs *Amysst* and *Hay* at *Mungbeer*, One dated the 11th, acquainting us that they with impatience for the Receipt of our Orders, in answer to their Letter of the 26th *ultimo*, as from that Time they have not had any Meeting with the Nabob, or entered on any Business, he always insisting on the Removal of our Troops from *Patna*, and Satisfaction for the Grievances done him; further, that Three of their Gentlemen having been that Morning stopped, as they were out a riding, by a Party of the Nabob's Horse, and brought back to Camp in a disgraceful Manner; they had wrote to the Nabob on the Subject, and should transmit us his Answer. A Note in Cypher, of the same Date, informs us, that the Nabob will never treat: That Parties of Horse are all round them, to prevent their Escape; and if they are detained, they desire us to pursue Measures for the English Honour, without regarding them; that 5000 Men are ordered to *Bengal*; that *Burdwan* and about *Calcutta* will be attacked; that the Nabob's Forces every where are Six Battalions of *Seapys* and 30,000 Horse; that their *Dauke* Coffids will

be drove away. Their last Letter is dated the 12th, and advises us, that the Nabob has sent Orders to *Sbir Ally Cawn*, to send all his Collections in Grain, and to prevent any Body's purchasing in *Purnea*; and complains, that Mr. *Peacock* has rented all *Moring Jungals* from the Zemindar for 5000 R<sup>s</sup>, and that Duties are demanded at *Burdwan* on the Cloth his People are purchasing as usual at *Keerpooy*: It further informs us a Copy of the Nabob's Answer to their last-mentioned Letter; wherein they observe, that his People, to justify their Proceeding, had misrepresented the Affair to the Nabob, for that their Gentlemen who rode out had no kind of Arms with them; and that they have yet received no Satisfaction for the Affront: They also inclose us Copies of a Letter received from *Paina*, which clears up the Affair of the Rice.

The Board, having duly considered the Substance of these Letters from *Mungbeer*, are of Opinion, That, from the Intelligence contained in the Note of the 11th, and the aggravating Circumstances which daily occur between Messieurs *Amysst* and *Hay*, and the Nabob, it will not be in their Power to effect an Accommodation; and although we do not immediately declare a Rupture, that we ought to be provided against such an Event, and form a Plan for guiding the Operations of our Army, if a War does ensue.

It is Agreed, therefore, in order to form a Front for the Protection of the Company's Aurungs and Lands, to secure their Investment and Revenues in the best Manner possible, and to endeavour to collect what we can from the other Provinces, to answer the Expenses of the War, that our Troops be immediately prepared for taking Post.

N<sup>o</sup> 52.

The 23d June 1763.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanstuart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED a Letter from Messieurs *Amysst* and *Hay*, dated the 14th Instant, advising us, That it appears to them, from the Nabob's disposing of his Troops, and what he has dropt in Conversation, that he intends at the same Time attacking both *Burdwan* and the Troops in *Patna*, in Hopes of subduing them before they can be secured: That he continues to treat them with the greatest Slight, and they almost daily meet with Insults from his People: That they are doubtful what the Event may be on their delivering to him the Governor's Letter, which expressly requires the Release of the Arms; as, the last Time they were with him, he told them that Peace or War depended on the removing our

Troops from *Patna*, with which, if we complied, he would then talk on Business: That their Gentlemen were again stopped that Morning at the same Chokey, and carried Prisoners to the Nabob through his Army; for which he has been pleased to say he has confined his People, and will give them Satisfaction; and that they have drawn on us a Bill of Exchange, in Favour of Mr. *Anselm Bradmont*, for C<sup>o</sup> of 610.

Received also a Note in Cypher, dated the 15th, advising us, That they delivered the Governor's Letter to the Nabob that Morning, on reading which, he immediately declared there was War, but told them that they might wait till they received the Governor and Council's Orders, and send him under their Hands and Seals the Amount of them; when, in case they did not order down our Troops at *Patna*, he would send them Passports to go to *Calcutta*; but that he would detain Mr. *Hay*, for Security of his Aumils and People in our Hands being delivered up: That they concluded the Nabob's View in this is principally the Safety of *Pherry*, and therefore recommended the immediate securing of that Man, as Mr. *Hay*'s only Security, who has agreed to remain with the Nabob.

Ordered, The *Mungbeer* Bill be accepted and paid: And,

In Consequence of Messieurs *Amyatt* and *Hay's* Representation,

Agreed, That the President be desired to keep a strict Watch over *Peiruse*; and in case he should make any Attempt to quit the Settlement, immediately to secure him.

Received Two Letters from Mr. *Johnstone*, at *Burdwan*,

dated the 20th Instant, giving us a particular Account of the Intelligence which he has received of the Motions of the Nabob's Troops, and their Designs against *Burdwan* Province; and therefore requesting that he may be properly reinforced, to endeavour to render their Attempts unsuccessful.

N<sup>o</sup> 53.

The 2d July 1763.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Bikers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED A Letter from *Coffimbuzar*, dated the 28th June, acquainting us particularly with the Circumstances of the Stoppage of our *Dauke*, &c. That it is reported with them the Occasion thereof is owing to Mr. *Amyatt's* proceeding to *Patna*, after having been refused Leave by the Nabob: That at *Duckery Bridge* he met with some Opposition from the Nabob's Troops, but made his Way good; and it's said he left One Gentleman a Prisoner behind: That they can by no Means depend upon this for Fact; but from the concurrent Circumstances of not having received any Packet from *Patna* these Three Days, they thought it necessary to acquaint us: They further inclose an Indent for Medi-

cines, which they request may be complied with; and inform us, that, as the Times are so precarious, they shall not make any further Advances for the Investment without our Orders.

Received a Letter from Mr. *Johnstone*, at *Burdwan*, dated the 30th June, acquainting us, that the Inhabitants on the Frontier towards *Cutwall*, are under great Apprehensions of the Nabob's People, and that 40 *Buxeries* from *Cutwall* came in the Night, and carried off One of the Farmers: He therefore requests to know, whether Lieutenant *Glen* might not advance to that Frontier with 600 *Seapoys*; or, if we keep yet on Terms with the Nabob, whether a Company or Two might be stationed there to check any Disturbance to the Ryots from the Phoudary of *Cutwall*; and desires to know further, Whether he is to send Pay for Captain *Long's* Party at *Amboa*.

The President acquaints the Board, That in a Letter of same Date from Lieutenant *Glen*, he is advised that the Troops at *Cutwall* remain in the same Situation as he wrote in his last, and are building Bungaloes: That he (Lieutenant *Glen*) thinks that the Apprehensions of the Inhabitants arises from the Calling in their *Seapoys*; and that, if they had a proper Force stationed in the Frontiers, the Heart of the Province would continue quiet.

N<sup>o</sup> 54.

The 4th July 1763.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Bikers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED the following Note in Cypher, directed on the Back, "To *William Ellis*, Esquire:

"We are made Prisoners, as far as the seizing of our Boats, and surrounding of us, can make us: The Boats with Arms were stopped a few Miles from hence.

"*Mongbeer*,  
"the 21st June 1763.

"*N. B.* To the Bearer give 100 Rupees."

The President acquaints the Board, That this Note came to him this Morning by the Hands of a *Harcara*, from whom, upon a strict Examination, he received also the following Report; That Mr. *Amyatt* dispatched at same Time a Note to *Calcutta*, and another to *Patna*, which, through Mistake of the Head *Hircara*, may have been exchanged, and occasioned the *Patna* Note coming here: That he (the *Hircara*) heard the *English* Troops at *Patna* had taken the City: That Mr. *Lysington* came down near to *Mongbeer* with a Battalion of *Seapoys*; and that Mr. *Amyatt* having joined him, they returned to *Patna*: And that *Bahadur Ally Cawn*, One of the Nabob's principal Officers, had joined Mr. *Ellis*.

Although Particulars of this News are not to be depended on, yet the Members of the Board think it sufficient to shew that the Breach between the Nabob and us is now irreparable.

Nº 55.

The 5th July 1763.

At a Consultation ;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED Two Letters from Mr. *Amyatt*, the first dated from *Sieppunge* the 25th *June*, advising us, That, from all the Nabob's Actions, Mr. *Hay* and he judge that he intends War, and that he will attack our Troops at *Patna*: That, Four Days before the Date of his Letter, an *Armenian* Commander, with a strong Reinforcement of Horse, Foot, and Cannon, went to *Pat-*

*na*: That the *Armenians* solely manage him, and urge the Disputes. The last is dated from *Loaty*, the 30th *June*, and advises us, That on his Arrival at *Cossimbuzar* Factory, he shall comply with our Orders of the 23d, and proceed himself to *Calcutta*, if consistent with his Safety; that the Nabob has sent a Man with him, and given him a *Dustuck* for him and his Party to proceed to *Calcutta*.

Agreed, We write an Answer to Mr. *Amyatt*'s Letters, acquainting him, That as our Intelligence of Yesterday has proved false, we shall suspend our Determinations until his Arrival; and that we therefore desire he will proceed to *Calcutta* as fast as possible, either without his Party, or with such a Part of it as he shall esteem necessary for his Safety.

*Henry Vanfittart*,  
*W. Billers*,  
*Warren Hastings*,  
*Ran Marriott*,  
*H. Watts*.

Nº 56.

The 6th July 1763.

At a Consultation ;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**L**ATE last Night we received a Letter from *Cossimbuzar*, dated the 3d, advising us, that Mr. *Amphlett*'s Consumah had just made his Escape from his Master's *Budgerow*, and brought them Accounts, that Mr. *Amyatt*, attempting to go there, was stopped, upon which he made some Resistance: That Lieutenant

*Cooper* and some *Seapoys* were killed, and the Whole made Prisoners.

The President further reports to the Board, that this Morning the two Packets, dispatched to *Cossimbuzar* the 2d and 3d, were returned from *Agur Deep*, with a Letter from the Writer of the *Daukes* at that *Choukey*, advising of all the *Choukeys* between that and *Cossimbuzar* being drove away; that he had heard Mr. *Amyatt* and his Party were attacked by the *Phouldar* of *Kajamaul*'s People; that One or Two Gentlemen had been led, and the rest taken Prisoners; and that he was informed *Mabomed Tucky Cawn* had received Orders to surround *Cossimbuzar* Factory.

After this the Board are unanimously of Opinion, That they have no further Resolutions, but to make the best Use of our Forces, for bringing the War to a speedy Conclusion, and firmly establishing the Nabob *Meer Jaffer* again in the Government.

Nº 57.

The 7th July 1763.

At a Consultation ;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

**R**ECEIVED a Letter from Mr. *Johnstone*, at *Burdwan*, dated the 5th, inclosing the following Note from Mr. *Motte*:

S I R,

I have just received Advice, that Yesterday Mr. *Amyatt*'s Party, on their Return from *Mongbeer*, were attacked and put to the Sword, by *Mabomed Tucky Cawn*. Two Gentlemen much wounded are escaped to *Miskuter*, and I have sent *Palankeens* to fetch them thither; who they are, I know not; but they are in a most miserable

able Condition. I hear also, *Coffimbuzar* Factory is surrounded.

I am, Sir,  
*Kewong,* Your most humble Servant,  
 the 4th July 1763. *T. Motte.*

Also, another Letter from him, dated the 6th, confirming the melancholy News of Mr. *Amyatt's* Party being cut off by the Nabob's People, in proceeding from *Maradbang* to the Factory at *Coffimbuzar*, as it has been related to him, by a *Haridar* and a *Scopoy* of the Grenadier Company, who have escaped, and were Witnesses of what passed. The Gentlemen of the Deputation to the Nabob (*Meer Jaffer*) report to the Board, that they waited on him again this Morning, and delivered him

the Articles copied in the *Persian* Language, which he partly read; but before he would proceed further, still requiring that *Nundomar* might be appointed to his Assistance; they applied to the Governor for his Release, who immediately ordered it, and they presented him to the Nabob. That he then perused the Articles with *Nundomar*, and agreed to them under a few Exceptions, which he said, he would specify in a Copy which he would himself draw up, and promised to sign and ratify them as soon afterwards as they could be got ready.

Agreed therefore, That the Treaty be made ready for signing as soon as possible; and that in the mean Time the following Proclamation be ingrossed fair, and Tomorrow signed and published throughout the Town.

## No 58.

Copy of the Proclamation of the Nabob *Meer Jaffer*.

Consultation, 7th July 1763.

THE Nabob *Meer Mahomed Cossim Allee Cawn* having entered upon and committed Acts of open Hostility against the *English* Nation, and the Interest of the *English* United East India Company, we on their Behalf are reduced to the Necessity of declaring War against him; and having come to a Resolution of placing the Nabob *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn Bahader* again in the Government, we now proclaim and acknowledge him as Subahdar of the Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*; and further, as the said *Cossim Allee Cawn* has likewise exercised Acts of Violence and Oppressions over many of the principal Merchants and Inhabitants of the Country, to their entire Ruin, we do hereby require all Manner of Persons under our Jurisdiction, and also invite all other Officers and Inhabitants of the Country,

to repair to the Standard of *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn Bahader*, to assist him in defeating the Designs of the said *Cossim Allee Cawn*, and finally establishing himself in the Subahdarree.

Given in Council at Fort William, the 7th Day of July 1763, under our Hands and the Seal of the said United East India Company.



*John Grabam,*  
Secretary.

*Henry Vanfittart,*  
*Thomas Adams,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*Stanlake Batson,*  
*William Billers,*  
*John Cartier,*  
*Warren Hastings,*  
*Randolph Marriot,*  
*Hugh Watts.*

## No 59.

The 8th July 1763.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Thomas Adams*, Esquire, Major,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire, Major,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriot*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

RECEIVED the following Note from *Coffimbuzar*, dated the 4th July, at Ten at Night.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

We Yesterday informed you of the Fate of Mr. *Amyatt* and his Party. We were then in Expectation of being surrounded; and now Forces are all around us with Cannon, and we expect to be attacked before Morning. We do our best to keep the Factory till Relief can be given us, to which Purpose we have wrote

to *Amba*, or where the Party reported to be marched may be.

We are,

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

*John Chambers,*  
*J. P. Lyon.*

6 or 7,000 Men, and 8 Pieces Cannon, now are on the Road, 'tis said.

Read again the Translation of the Letter, received last Night from the Nabob *Cossim Allee Cawn*; which having likewise considered,

The Board are of Opinion, That it leaves no Room to doubt that our Troops at *Patna* have met with a Defeat; and therefore think that Major *Adams* should be intrusted to proceed with Caution, and leave nothing in his Rear which may in any Manner endanger the Settlement.

The Proclamation drawn up last Night, being wrote fair, was now laid before the Board ready for signing, wherupon



whereupon the President and Mr. *Hastings* entered the following Minutes :

The President, sensible that it will be more for the Public Service, we should appear unanimous in every Measure now entered upon for prosecuting the War against *Cassim Ali Cawn* with the utmost Vigour, and supporting the Alliance with *Jaffer Ali Cawn*, to re-establish him in the Government; and particularly, that it will be a Satisfaction to the Nabob *Jaffer Ali Cawn*, consents to sign the Proclamation, and all other Public Deeds which shall be made in Consequence : Now recording once for all, that he does not mean hereby to prejudice his former Declarations and Opinions entered on the Consultations.

Mr. *Hastings's* Minute.

It is long since I foreboded, that our Disputes with the Nabob would terminate in an open Rupture; but as from the ill Opinion which I had of his Strength, I expected that our Contentions with him would be of a very short Duration, nor otherwise affect the Interest of the Company than in the further ill Consequences of a broken and disordered State; and as I had not the same Tie upon me with the President, with respect to any military Charge, it was my Resolution, as soon as a War should be declared, to resign the Company's Service, being unwilling on the one Hand to give Authority to past Measures of which I disapproved, and of a new

Establishment which I judged detrimental to the Honour and Interests of the Company; and apprehensive on the other, that my Continuance at the Board might serve only to prejudice than advance the Good of the Service, in keeping alive, by my Presence, the Disputes which have so long disturbed our Councils, and retarding the public Business by continual Dissents and Protests : But since our late melancholy Advices give us Reason to apprehend a dangerous and troublesome War; and from the unparalleled Acts of Barbarity and Treachery with which it has opened on the Part of the Nabob, it is become the Duty of every British Subject to unite in the Support of the common Cause; it is my Intention to join my Endeavours for the Good of the Service, not as long as the War shall last, but as long as the Troubles consequent from it may endanger either the Company's Affairs or the Safety of this Colony : On the same Principle, and to remove every Appearance of Disunion amongst ourselves, I will freely set my Hand to the Declaration published by the Board, though I still abide by the Sentiments which I have all along expressed, in the Measures taken in the Course of all our Disputes with the Nabob here, by confirming all that I have declared in my former Protests and Minutes, which stand upon Record in our Consultations.

These Minutes being entered, the Proclamation was signed by the whole Board, as recorded on last Night's Consultation.

Nº 60.

The 9th July 1763.

At a Consultation,

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,

*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

RECEIVED a Letter from Mr. *Johnstone* at *Burdwan*, dated the 7th Instant, acquainting us, that he had received Advice of *Cassim Ali Cawn's* having sent *Cangar Cawn*, with a Detachment of 6,000 Horse and 5,000 Foot, by the Way of the Hills, to enter *Burdwan*; and that if he drives us out of it, he is to have the Zemindary of *Beerboom*.

Nº 61.

The 11th July 1763.

At a Consultation,

P R E S E N T,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*John Carnac*, Esquire,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*John Cartier*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,

*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire.

THE Treaty with the Nabob *Myr Mahomed Jaffer Cawn* having been finally executed Yesterday between him and the Members of the Council, is now brought in, and read at the Board.

Ordered, That a Copy of it be here recorded, and the Original deposited with the other Treaties.

Extract from Mr. Fullerton's Letter to the Board.

MR. Ellis, with the rest of the Gentlemen, were inhumanly butchered by *Shimroo*, who came that Evening to the Place with Two Companies (he had the Day before sent for all the Knives and Forks from the Gentlemen) he surrounded the House with his People, and went into a little Outer Square, and sent for Messieurs *Ellis*, *Hay*, and *Lufkington*, and with them came Six other Gentlemen, who were all terribly mangled, and cut to Pieces, and their Bodies thrown into a Well, in the Square, and it filled up; then the *Seapoys* were sent into the large Square, and fired on the Gentlemen there, and rushing upon them, cut them into Pieces in the most inhuman Manner, and they were thrown into another large Well, which was likewise filled up.

The 7th, the Nabob sent for me, and told me to get myself in Readiness to go to *Calcutta*, for that though he had been unlucky in the War (which he asserted with great Warmth had not been of his seeking, nor had he been the Aggressor, reproaching the *English* with Want of Fidelity, and Breach of Treaty) yet, he said, he had still Hopes of an Accommodation. He asked me, What I thought of it? I told him, I made no Doubt of it. When some of his People who were present mentioned the Affair of Mr. *Anyatt's* Death, he declared that he had never given any Orders for killing Mr. *Anyatt*, but after receiving Advice of Mr. *Ellis* having attacked *Patna*, he had ordered all his Servants to take and imprison all the *English* in the Provinces, wherever they could find them; he likewise added, that if a Treaty was not set afoot, he would bring the Kings, the *Morattas*, and *Abdallas*, against us, and so ruin our Trade, &c. He had finished his Letters, and

ordered Boats and a Guard to conduct me; when, upon the Advice of some of his People, he stopped me, and said, there was no Occasion for me to go. After his sending for me at first, he ordered the *Seapoys*, in whose Charge I was, to go to their Quarters, two Moguls and twelve *Hircarras* to attend me, but to let me go about the City where I pleased. I then applied for Liberty to stay at the *Dutch* Factory, which was granted. I applied to *Mendee Allee Cawn* for his Interest in Behalf of the Gentlemen in the Chelston, who were Seven in Number, and were not killed till the 11th of *October*; but when he was petitioned about them, he gave no Answer; but still sent Orders to *Shimroo* to cut them off. I likewise applied to *Allee Ibrahim Cawn*, who interceded for them; but he gave him no Answer either, though I was present when *Ibrahim Cawn* petitioned for them.

The 14th of *October*, on the Approach of our Army, *Cosim Allee* decamped with his Troops in great Confusion, and marched as far as *Fulwarre*, Five Cois to the Westward of the City. The *Hircarras* that were with me having no Orders about me, I gave them some Money, which made them pretty easy.

The 25th, after giving Money to a *Jemmatdar*, that had the Guard to the Westward of the *Dutch* Factory, by the River Side, I set out in a small *Pulwar*, and got safe to the Boats under Command of Captain *Wedderburn*, that were lying opposite to the City, on the other Side of the River; and at Eleven o'Clock that Night, arrived at the Army under the Command of Major *Adams*, lying at *Jenfy*.

Fort William Consultations, 17th September 1763.

Letter from the Governor to *Cosim Ally Cawn*.

I HAVE received from Major *Adams* the Copy of your Letter to him, dated the last of *Seffer*. Mr. *Anyatt* and Mr. *Hay* were sent to you as Ambassadors, a Title sacred among all Nations; yet in Violation of that Title you cause Mr. *Anyatt* to be attacked and killed on his Return, after having given him your Passports; and Mr. *Hay* you unjustly kept as a Prisoner with you — You surrounded and attacked our Factory at *Cosimbuzar*, and carried away our Gentlemen from thence Prisoners, in a most disgraceful Manner, to *Mongbeer*, although they had no Concern in the War, nor resisted your People. In like Manner, in all other Parts you attacked the *English* Agents, who were carrying on their Trade quietly; some you killed, and some were carried away Prisoners, and their Effects every where plundered — After these Proceedings, Do you ask for what Reason Major *Adams* was sent with an Army? — You know the Laws of God and Man. It's you declared you would turn the *English* out of the Country, and had proceeded as far as you could towards it; it became necessary for us to take Measures for our own Defence, and for the Care

of our own Reputation: Thanks be to God that Success has attended our Army thus far; and they will continue their March in the same Manner as far as the *Carannassa*, that the Country may be freed from Disturbances, and the Inhabitants relieved from the Horrors of War. And although we are shocked, as must all People, of all Religions and all Nations, at the Revenge which you threaten to take upon the Lives of our Chiefs, who have been unfortunately and unjustly taken Prisoners by you, yet the Honour of our Nation, and the Interests of the Company, will not be sacrificed to this Consideration, nor the Operations of the Army stopped. To put Prisoners of War to Death is an Act which will appear shocking and unlawful, not only to Christians and Musselmans, but to the most barbarous Pagans; such Sentiments are no where to be met with but among the Beasts of the Field. After the Battle of *Ouda Nulla* above a Thousand of your Officers and Men were Prisoners in the Hands of Major *Adams*, who released them without the least Hurt or Injury — Reflect on this, and on your own Character, both in this World and the next; and remember also, that if you had followed my Advice, this War would not have happened.

N<sup>o</sup> 64.

The Mongbeer Treaty.

**FIRST.** That for all Trade imported or to be exported by Shipping, the Company's Duffuck shall be granted, and it shall pass unmolested, and free of Customs as usual.

Second. For all Trade from one Place in the Country to another, in Commodities produced in the Country, as Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, &c. the Company's Duffuck shall not be granted; but it shall go with the Duffuck of the Buxbunder, Shahbunder, or other Office of the Country Government.

Third. That at the Time of taking out the said Duffuck and before the Dispatch of the Goods, the Duties shall be paid according to the Rates which shall be particularly settled, and annexed to this Agreement.

Fourth. That the said Duties, so to be paid before Exportation, shall be the Whole that are to be paid; so that after the Dispatch of the Goods, nothing shall be paid at any Chokeys in the Road, nor at the Place of Sale.

Fifth. That all the Goods being furnished either with the Company's Duffuck or that of the Government, shall meet with no Obstruction or Delay. The Guards and Chokeys on the Road shall have nothing more to do than to demand a Sight of the Duffuck, unless they shall observe the Boats to be laden with a larger Quantity of Goods than are mentioned in the Duffuck; in which Case they are to give immediate Notice to the nearest *English* Factory, as well as to the nearest Officer of the Government, that Orders may be sent to have a strict Examination; but they are not to detain them in the Road.

Sixth. If any one should attempt to pass Goods without a Duffuck, either from the Government or the Company, or shall clandestinely procure a Company's Duffuck to pass Salt, Tobacco, or other Produce of the Country, from Place to Place for Inland Trade, such

Goods shall be seized, and confiscated; the Guards and Chokeys in the Road are to stop them, and to give Notice to the nearest *English* Factory, as well as the nearest Officer of the Government.

Seventh. If any Person not having a Duffuck shall attempt to pass Boats or Goods clandestinely, under the Cover of, and in Company with, other Boats or Goods having a Duffuck, such Boats or Goods so attempted to be passed clandestinely, shall be seized and confiscated.

Eighth. The Gomastahs in every Place shall carry on their Trade freely, and as Merchants; and shall on no Account use Force in Buying or Selling: If any Disputes arise in the Course of their Business, they shall not attempt to redress themselves; but shall make their Complaints to the Fouzedar, or other Officer of the Government, and have the Matter tried before him: In like Manner, if any Merchant or Inhabitant shall be aggrieved by any *English* Gomastah, he shall make his Complaint to the Fouzedar, or other Officers of the Government; and the Gomastah, being duly summoned, shall appear before him to answer to the Charge, and have the Matter determined.

Ninth. To deter the Fouzedars, and other Officers of the Government, from being guilty of any Partiality, they shall be enjoined to transmit to the Nabob Copies of their Proceedings, upon all Trials where *English* Agents or Gomastahs are concerned; and likewise to give a Copy to the Agent or Gomastah; who, if he thinks himself aggrieved may send the same to his Principal, and he may make his Complaint to the President, who, if the Case requires it, will apply to the Nabob for Redress; and when any Fouzedar, or other Officer of the Government, shall prove guilty of such Partiality, the Nabob shall punish him in the most exemplary Manner.

N<sup>o</sup> 65.

Mr. Anyatt's Minute.

Fort William, the 5th April 1762.

**THE** Minute given in by the President the 22d March, has not in the least altered the Sentiments of Mr. Anyatt, in regard to the Demand proposed by him to be made from *Cassim Ali Cawn*, of the Twenty Laaks of Rupees for the Use of the Company, as he finds nothing in the Minute to invalidate the Reason which induced him to propose that the Demand should be made; nor did any Minute or Expression of Mr. Van Sittart's ever imply such Money was not to be received, but the contrary; and only rested the Payment of it to the Nabob's Generosity, after his other Expences were defrayed, which was not risking much; for whilst we remain so powerful in this Country, such a Promise the Nabob will look on as binding as a Bond; and the taking a Bond might bear a bad Appearance; for it's acknowledged that a Paper was received from him, containing a Promise of 20 Laaks of Rupees to Messrs. Van Sittart, Caillaud, Hatwell, Sumner, and Vol. III.

*McGwire*. Now it's not to be imagined he would have offered so large a Sum to these Gentlemen, to the Exclusion of the other Members of the Council and Select Committee (an Offer before unprecedented) but as a Consideration to engage them to conclude with him a Treaty, from whence he was to reap so much Advantage, without Regard to the Opinions of the rest of the Board: As therefore they could have no Right to receive Money upon such Terms, and Mr. Anyatt is willing to believe they have not, if they thought proper of themselves to sign a Treaty on the Part of our honourable Masters, the Consideration for so doing ought to be paid to those who were to be the only Losers in Case of ill Consequences arising therefrom. The Parallels between the Present received by Mr. Anyatt in common with the whole Board, as well as with the Army and Navy, and this of Twenty Laak, intended for Five Gentlemen only, is as unjust as it would be to make

a Parallel between the Two Revolutions; the One established in consequence of the Overthrow of a common Enemy, the other in direct Breach of the former Engagements; the Act of only Part of the Council, and to which, had all its Members been consulted, the Majority would probably have objected. Mr. *Anyatt* wishes he could agree with the President, that the Nabob is well disposed towards us: If that were the Case, there would be no Necessity at this Time of our sending Mr. *Hestings* up to him; the whole Tenor of his Conduct demonstrates the contrary; he is keeping up, and daily increasing, a Rabble of an Army at an immense Expence, which he can do from no other Motive than from Distrust, and a Desire of being independent of us; as he may command, by Virtue of the Treaty, the Service of our Troops for all Occasions: He now remains at the Extremity of the Country, thro' his Suspicions of us; and, in order to be at a greater Distance from our Settlements, has determined on removing the Seat of his Government to *Rajahmabul*; and indeed it is no Wonder he should entertain these Suspicions, as he can have no Security that we will keep our Faith with him, better than we did with his Father-in-Law, to whom we were bound by Engagements more solemn

than those since entered into with him; nor can he ever acquit himself of his Treachery to *Jaffer Aly Cawn*, which must ever keep alive the Suspicions now burning in his Breast — Mr. *Anyatt* does not allow the smallest Degree of Merit to *Cosim Aly Cawn*, for having discharged the Payments due to the Company and his Troops: His being in a Condition to do so was entirely owing to the happy Change of Affairs, by the Defeat of the *Shahzadah*: The same Success would have equally enabled *Meer Jaffer* to do so. But moreover *Cosim Aly Cawn* has taken the Opportunity of the Tranquillity of the Country, to commit the most unheard-of Exactions and Oppressions, and (as a further Proof of his Regard for us) more particularly against such as were our avowed Friends: *Rannarain*, with many others, are now the unhappy Instances thereof; by the giving up of whom, and becoming in every Thing since subservient to the Nabob's Views, without keeping up any Interest or Friendship with any other of the leading Men in the Country, there is not a Man of any Rank or Consequence that dare so much as visit, or have the least Connections with, any of our Chiefs or Commanders, as their Letters to this Board at different Times testify.

N<sup>o</sup> 66.

Fort William Consultation, 4th July 1763.

MAJOR *Carnac* now delivers in his Opinion, in the Manner following; *viz.*

" Though Major *Carnac* entirely disapproved the Revolution in Favour of *Cosim Aly Cawn*, and did not deem the Authority, by which it was effected, sufficient; from a Conviction, if the whole Council had been consulted, the Majority would have been against it; yet, from the Moment we had the Advice of our Employers having acquiesced therein, it became our common Duty to support to the utmost the new *Nizam*, so long as our Rights and Privileges were not infringed by him; and the Major can safely aver, no Person at the Board is more truly concerned than himself at the Measures we are under the indispensable Necessity of taking. The Nabob *Cosim Aly Cawn* has, for some Time past, shewn such an Indisposition towards us, as would render it the Height of Folly to place any Confidence in him; and, however inclined the Board have shewn themselves, by their long Forbearance, and their sending Deputies, to the Establishment of a mutual Friendship, he has, by his late Acts, absolutely put it out of our Power, consistently with Honour, to come to an Accommodation with him; we shall therefore be justified to the Company and the World, in exerting our Endeavours for the Restoration of *Meer Jaffer*, an Atonement which Major *Carnac* looks upon as due to him, for the Injustice which he thinks was done him in deposing him; and he is of Opinion he should be proclaimed at *Calcutta*, and taken up by Major *Adams* to *Moorsabad*, and there placed upon the Musnud; and that a Manifesto should be published, setting forth the Reasons for the Change of Government; and there is no Doubt, but that as *Meer Jaffer*, from the Consideration in which he has for many Years been held, must have a Number of Friends, several of the most considerable Persons in the Country will flock to his Standard.

" Major *Carnac* begs Leave to submit to the Board the Terms which, in his Opinion, should be made the Ground Work of a Treaty to be concluded between us and the *Meer Jaffer*.

" The Confirmation of the Cession of the Three Provinces of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong*, with this Alteration, that they be now made over to us in Property, instead of their Revenues only being assigned to us, as is the Case at present.

" An universal Freedom of Trade to be allowed us, and the other Privileges which the Deputies were commissioned to demand of *Cosim Aly Cawn*.

" The defraying the Expences of the War, and a full Indemnification to be made to the private Sufferers, as well as to the Public, for all Losses sustained. To enable *Meer Jaffer* to do so immediately, the Treasure of *Cosim Aly Cawn*, if laid hold of, to be put into his Hands; but in case of Failure herein, the Revenues of the *Nuddea* Province to be mortgaged to us till every Body is reimbursed.

" The Farm of the *Purnea* Petre to be given to the Company.

" The ill Consequence of suffering an Overgrowth of Power in a Nabob being but too apparent, he should in future be limited in the Number of his Forces, as to be obliged to have his main Dependence upon those of the *English*: The principal of our Troops should therefore be stationed at *Burrumpoor* (where there is a Piece of Ground already marked out and given to us) where proper Cantonments may be erected for them at the Nabob's Expence, and the single Batta also paid by him. There they will be at Hand to be detached wherever he has Occasion for their Services; and this Disposition will preserve our Military, it being a very healthy Spot; whereas they have totally experienced (the two last Seasons particularly) the Unhealthiness of *Calcutta*."

N<sup>o</sup> 67.

Fort William, the 8th December 1763.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Commodore John B. Tinker*,  
*Warren Hastings*,  
*Randolph Marriott*,  
*Hugh Watts*,  
*A. William Senior*, Esquires.

AGREED, We write a Letter to Major *Adams*, acquainting him that we have paid due Attention to the Contents of his, as well as of the other Letters from *Shuja Dowla*, *Shitabrey*, &c. That we shall immediately fix on some proper Person to send as our Agent to *Shuja Dowla's* Court, from whom being informed of the State and Interests of the several Chiefs of the Empire, we may be enabled to judge of any particular Engagements *Shuja Dowla* may propose to enter into with the Company. That in the mean Time we have determined thus far, that *Shuja Dowla's* Dominions lying contiguous to the Provinces of Bengal, it will be for our mutual Interests to maintain a Friendship and defensive Alliance; and that we do therefore empower him to promise in our Name, that we shall be ready to assist *Shujab Dowla*, either against *Cassim Aly Cawn*, or any other Enemy who may invade or attack his Dominions: That in Return however we shall expect from him to declare himself openly an Enemy of *Cassim Aly Cawn*, and use his utmost Endeavours to seize and deliver him up with all his Effects: And unless an Alliance of this Nature is first concluded with *Shujab Dowla*, or an Invitation received from him, *Beny Bahadry*, or some other Officer of Note, empowered to make it, we would not have our Army pass the *Carannassa*: That if in Return for this Advance of ours towards an Alliance, *Shuja Dowla* on his Part incline to send a principal Person to treat at *Calcutta*, we desire he will furnish him with the necessary Passports; but that if, contrary to our Expectations, *Shujab Dowla* should join his Army with *Cassim Aly Cawn*, we desire he will, on the first Appearance of such a Junction, write to *Shujab Dowla* in high Terms, declaring that we look upon it as an open Act of Hostility against us, and shall pursue him with all our Forces wherever he goes—That he (the Major) will accordingly in such Case advise us, and we shall immediately, with the Assistance of the Squadron, reinforce him to the utmost of our Power, to enable him to enter *Shujab Dowla's* Dominions—That we observe from these Letters *Shujab Dowla* and *Beny Bahadry* are desirous of our becoming Security for the Payment of the King's Revenues, in Return for the Subadary Sanads to be granted to the Nabob; but this we would on no Account agree to; neither do we think, considering the King's present Situation, and the State of the Empire, that these Sanads are of any such Consequence as to make the Nabob anxious for obtaining them at the great Expence which has hitherto attended Applications to the Court—That of these our Sentiments he will acquaint the Nabob, and recommend to him not to make any Promise of Money on that Head, pointing out to him at the same Time, that the Weight and Security he derives from our Protection is greatly superior to any that can be conveyed him by these Sanads, and that all the Money he can collect will be wanted to pay his own Troops, and fulfil his Agreements with the Company—That from what appears to us of *Shuja Dowla's* Circumstances, we think it very possible he would give all his Assistance for obtaining

the Sanads, for the Sake only of our offered Alliance—And upon this Footing therefore, he (the Major) may acquaint the Nabob that he shall request them—That as these Negotiations, the Neighbourhood of the King and *Shuja Dowla's* Army, and the large Force with which *Cassim Aly Cawn* has retired from the Province, may open Scenes of Business of great Consequence to our Nation in India, we must earnestly repeat our Request that he will remain in the Command of the Army until the Event of these doubtful Affairs is become more certain.

2d February 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyster*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

To Major *John Carnac*.

Sir,

Agreeably to the Resolution of Council the 30th December, you will please to proceed with all Expedition to the Province of *Babar*, and take upon you the Command of the Army now stationed there. On your Arrival at Camp, you will direct One hundred Europeans and a thousand *Sceapies* to return to Bengal, as we intend a Detachment of that Force, with Two Pieces of Artillery, shall always be cantoned at *Ghyratter*, and kept in Readiness to execute any Services which may be requisite below.

As *Cassim Aly Cawn* has now fled out of these Provinces, into the Dominions of *Shuja Dowla*, the principal Object of the Army under your Command will be to watch his further Motions, and guard and maintain the Tranquillity of the Frontiers; and you will therefore please to canton the Troops as near the Boundaries of the Province as you may think necessary for these Purposes.

From the Disposition which the King and *Shuja Dowla* has expressed, in their late Letters to us, and the Answers which we wrote them, we are in Hopes they may determine to surrender *Cassim Aly Cawn* into our Hands; or, at least, by stripping him of his Wealth, and obliging him to disband his Forces, put it out of his Power to give us any further Disturbance. But if, contrary to our Expectations, they should resolve to join the Fortune of *Cassim Aly Cawn*, and march with their Forces towards Bengal, we desire you will advance the Army to the Banks of the *Carannassa*, and oppose and prevent any Enemies from entering the Country.

Our Sentiments regarding the Conduct to be observed towards the King and *Shuja Dowla*, you will find contained in our Letter of Instructions to the late Major *Adams*, dated 8 December 1763, of which a Copy is herewith delivered for your Information. And as the Answers to the Letters which were wrote also to them at same Time, must pass through your Hands, you will be enabled to take your Measures according to the Advices which they may contain.

In this Letter to Major *Adams*, we transmitted our Opinion, with respect to the Nabob's making Application for the King's Sanads, and which, you will observe, we desired to be communicated to the Nabob. The

President likewise then wrote to the Nabob to the same Effect; but we are sorry to find, that, notwithstanding our Council, he continues still very earnest in this Point, and has actually executed an Agreement to pay to the King 28 Lacks of Rupees annually, with 5 Lacks Nuzzerana, with a View of obtaining these Sumas, and that he is seeking Means to remit above One Half of that Sum immediately to Court. In consequence of this Intelligence, we have been under the Necessity of sending Orders to the Commanding Officer of the Army, of which Copies are inclosed for your Information. And we cannot help repeating here, that we think this Step of the Nabob's a Mark of bad Policy and great Imprudence; for making Remittances to the King can only be considered as supplying the Finances of *Shujah Dowla*, who seeks but an Opportunity of invading and molesting the Nabob's Government; nay, is perhaps at this very Period become his open and declared Enemy. Besides, admitting the Royal Confirmation to be a Matter requisite, either for the Public or the Nabob's own private Satisfaction, it would certainly be a more proper Time to apply for it when once all Parts of the Country have testified a firm Allegiance to his Government, and he has been fully established in his Dominion over it. We shall always endeavour to carry ourselves towards the Nabob in such a Manner as to give him no just Cause of Disgust; but we must hope, and our Employers will expect, that, for such Conduct, he will not be wanting in a suitable Return, by a proper Observance of his Engagements, and an Attention to their Interest; and that therefore he will, for the present, set aside the abovementioned Resolution, which plainly tends to their Injury in both these Respects.

The Nabob has wrote to the President, that it is his Intention to return to *Calcutta* in the Month of *March* next; we desire therefore you will encourage him therein, as far as you may find Opportunities, having many Points to settle with him, necessary for the Welfare of his and our Government.

As we are informed that the Fort of *Rotas* remains still independent, we desire you will endeavour to reduce it, in Case you can find an Opportunity; that is to say, if it should appear that it can be done without any Inconvenience to the other Objects of your Instructions, or occasioning the Loss of much Time and Men.

In Consequence of the Opinion of yourself and the other Field Officers, that the small Body of *European* Cavalry we now maintain, can never prove of Service adequate to the great Expence which attends their Establishment, we have determined to reduce them all, excepting One Troop, which will be useful for the Purposes of patrolling and reconnoitring. We desire therefore you will incorporate the Officers and Men with the Battalion, and order the Horses to be disposed of to the best Advantage, after completing the Troop commanded by Captain *George Hey*, which we mean shall stand, to Sixty Private, and its proper Officers.

Sensible of your Regard for the Company's Interest, we need hardly recommend to you to have in View the Reduction of the Expences of the Army, whenever, and as far as the Nature of the Services you have to execute will admit.

We rely entirely on your Prudence, Courage, and good Conduct; and, wishing you always Health and Success, we are, with Esteem, &c.

R. Lyeffer.

Henry Van Sittart.

23d February 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Vanstittart*, President,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,

*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyeffer*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

To the honourable *Henry Vanstittart*, Esquire, President and Governor of *Fort William*.

Honourable Sir,

I am extremely sorry to inform you, that, notwithstanding all Endeavours to keep the Troops in due Bounds, Yesterday Morning, the *European* Battalion forced the Drummers to beat the General, without apprizing any of their Officers, and stood to their Arms, appointing themselves a Leader: After loading their Pieces and fixing their Bayonets, they took Possession of the Artillery Parks, forcing the *Lascars* and some Gunners to draw out Six Guns, placing Three on each Flank; the *European* Horse formed on the Right, and the *Moguls* on the Left; the *Seapoys* were likewise in Motion, but by a timely Admonition they desisted. All Endeavours were used to pacify the *Europeans*, but in vain; in this Order they proceeded through the Nabob's Camp, crossed a Nulla, and directed their March towards the *Carumnassa*. When I found they were not to be stopped at any Rate, I sent Captain *Stables* to apprize the Nabob, who came and met them on their March—offered a Lack of Rupees. One half to be paid immediately, and the Remainder at One o'Clock in the Afternoon, which was all he could produce in Camp; but neither Promises or Threats could stop them—for want of Draught Bullocks, the Cannon were lost on the Road to, and in, the Nabob's Camp, which I returned to Camp again.

I followed them, in Company with many of the Battalion Officers, endeavouring to persuade them to march back to Camp, and receive the Money the Nabob had sent. About a hundred dropt them on the March, and returned: On their Arrival at the *Carumnassa*, they drew up on the Parade in the Front of the Guns belonging to the Detachments, and immediately secured them; in the mean Time, the *Mogul* Horse dispersed themselves amongst the *Seapoys* of the Detachment, to influence them to join. Here I got them to halt to take a Dram and Biscuit; while the Drams were served, we prevailed on most of the *English* to return; but the *French*, and most of the Foreigners, persisted in crossing the *Carumnassa*, to the Amount of about Three hundred, and proceeded towards *Banaras*; at the same Time, by the Influence of the *Mogul* Horse, Part of Two Battalions of *Seapoys*, of the *Carumnassa* Detachment, rushed to their Arms, fixed their Bayonets, and followed them across the River: Growing towards the Evening, I took the Remainder of the *Europeans*, with the Guns, to the Grand Camp, leaving some Officers to assist the *Seapoys* Officers. To-day we have got many of the *Seapoys* to return, with some of the *Europeans*; and I expect most of the *Seapoys*, with about Seventy *Europeans*, will return this Evening, on Condition of being pardoned; there is a Body of *Frenchmen*, about One hundred and Fifty, headed by Serjeant *Delamar*, and Two of the *French* Serjeants, that have halted on the Banks of the *Ganges*, opposite *Banaras*, but cannot cross for want of Boats. I have very little Hopes of this Party's returning, for it seems to have been a premeditated Scheme of the *French* in particular, to entice the best Part of the Army over to the Enemy, under the Pretence of Donation Money, at the same Time were determined to refuse all Offers of Cash whatever.

This Morning I ordered Part of the Donation to be paid from the Laak which the Nabob sent, the *Europeans* received Forty Rupees per Man, and the *Seapoys* Six Rupees each; the Non-commissioned Officers in Proportion; this appears to have satisfied them, and I believe most of the *Europeans* that have returned are ashamed of their Proceedings, being convinced of the bad

bad Intention of their Leaders (the French) to draw them into a Crime which they never intended.

I shall, with the Assistance of my Officers, do my utmost Endeavour to regain those still missing, and am in great Hopes, by their present Behaviour, that the Fury of the Storm is past. However I think it proper that the Army be kept in Motion, which may partly prevent the like for the future. I purpose shifting Ground often, still keeping the District between the Sone and Carunnaissa; and should be glad to be honoured with your Orders and Advice.

The Nabob proposed setting out for Calcutta Two Days ago, but receiving a Letter from Shittabroy, that he should set out from Illiabad immediately with the Sonnads, has detained him a few Days longer.

I am,  
Honourable Sir,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Camp at Sui, near Carunnaissa, William Jennings.  
February 12th 1764.

27th February 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President,  
William Billers, Esquire,  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
Hugh Watts, Esquire,  
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,  
Raiph Lyeffer, Esquire,  
John Burdett, Esquire.

Captain Jennings's Letter.

'Received a Letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 15th Instant, giving us a particular Account of the Behaviour of the Troops, from the Date of his last Letter to the Board, till the Mutiny which happened among them on the 12th; of which we have already been particularly advised, by his Letter to the President of that Date, as likewise of the Steps he took to pacify, and bring them to a proper Sense of their Duty: That, the next Day, the Seapoys at Camp having heard of the Revolt of those at the Carunnaissa, refused to take the Six Rupees per Man offered them, and immediately stood to their Arms; whereupon the greatest Confusion ensued, as the Europeans, being ashamed of their former Behaviour, insisted on forcing the Seapoys back; and accordingly stood likewise to their Arms, and the Artillery to their Guns: That, not being able to prevent this, he ordered the Battalion to form on the Parade, load, and fix their Bayonets; but upon no Pretence to use Violence, without they were attacked: That finding nothing else would quiet them, he has judged it for the Good of the Service, that the Seapoys Demand for being paid Half the Share per Man, which the Europeans had received, should be complied with; and that the Havildars have accordingly received each 40 Rupees, the Naiks 30, and the Seapoys 20: That they appear all pretty well satisfied at present, and that he shall use his utmost Endeavours, with the Assistance of the other Officers, to promote Quiet and Harmony among them.

1st March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vansittart, President,  
William Billers, Esquire,  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
Hugh Watts, Esquire,  
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,  
Raiph Lyeffer, Esquire,  
Mr. Burdett, absent.

Captain Jennings's Letter.

Received a Letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 18th Instant, acquainting us, that the Troops are again brought to good Order, and at present appear extremely well satisfied; that he learns by his Hircarras, the Foreigners, headed by Serjeant Delamar, have proceeded on towards Illiabad, and that Raja Bahuwan Sing has assisted them with Money and Guides to conduct them to Shuja Dewla's Camp; although in his Letter, in Answer to Captain Jennings's, he assures him, that he used all the Persuasions in his Power to prevail with them to return, but that they persisted in marching forwards, to offer their Service to Shuja Dewla: That by the Return of that Day, he finds our Loss to consist of Five Serjeants and 152 Rank and File, with 16 private of the European Cavalry, and 100 Seapoys; but that the latter, being in a separate Body, he is still in Hopes of prevailing with them to return to their Colours.

12th March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,  
William Billers, Esquire,  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,  
Raiph Lyeffer, Esquire,  
Mr. Burdett indisposed.

To the honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President, and Governor, &c. of Fort William.

Honourable Sir,

I received your Favour of the 5th of February, and should have answered it sooner, but our Advices for some Time have been very intricate, both from Illiabad and Shuja Dewla's Army.

The Nabob's Intelligence, which corroborates with ours, are, that Shittabroy is stopp'd from coming; and that the King and Shuja Dewla are come to a Resolution to assist Cossim Ali Cawn, and put him again in Possession of Bengal, &c. By Two Hircarras from Banaras, the 24 ultimo, I am informed that Cossim Ali, by Order of Shuja Dewla, has sent Shake Small Beg Jemmadar, with Two hundred Horse, and Four Companies of Seapoys, to Bahuwan Sing; who is to assist them with Hackirys, and a proper Buzar, for their March to Ratajgur, to carry off the Treasures and Effects left there. Upon Enquiry, I find there is no Way of preventing this Party, but by crossing the Carunnaissa, their Rout being round the Hills, through Bahuwan Sing's Country, which brings them to the Western Gate of Ratajgur, without entering the Nabob's Dominions.

Major Carnac being expected every Day at Patna, I have wrote to receive his Orders—I have some Reason to think that Shuja Dewla has sent People to our Camp to corrupt our Men—I have confined a Fukeer, who is accused by an European of offering his Service to the revolted Party on their Way to the Carunnaissa, promising to conduct and supply them with Provision on their March up the Country: And by a Letter from Captain Stables, received last Night from the Nabob's Camp at Doudnagar, he says, 'tis now confirmed, that Shuja Dewla enticed our People to desert.

The Army's only Complaint is the Dearness and great Scarcity of Provision in our Buzar—The Badagpoor Country has been entirely ruined by Cossim Ali Cawn's Army, and it is with great Difficulty we can get Supplies at any Rate; most Part comes from Patna. I have wrote to Mr. Baisson, who has promised to assist us all that is in his Power: I likewise dispatch large Parties twice a Week to Patna for Grain; but notwithstanding which, I am greatly afraid we shall be but ill provided;

provided; at present the Black Troops and Servants can barely live on their Pay. If it should be judged necessary for the Army to remain in the *Budgpoor* Country, I would recommend that Magazines for supplying the Troops be erected at *Buxar*, with a proper Detachment to remain there as a Guard to the Magazine. *Buxar* lies very convenient to be supplied with Grain from *Patna*, and the adjacent Countries, by Water, which will greatly lessen the Price of all Kinds of Provisions, and likewise be nearer for supplying any Part of the *Budgpoor* Country. Our present Land Carriage from *Patna* raises the Price of Rice, &c. in our Buzar a Hundred per Cent. more than the *Patna* Market, besides the Uncertainty occasioned by the Merchants selling at different Places on the Road—I expect Major *Carnac* will meet the Nabob at *Patna*.

I am,  
Honourable Sir,  
With great Respect,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Camp at *Sarjaram*, *William Jennings*.  
February the 28th 1764.

#### Major Carnac's Letters.

Received Two Letters from Major *Carnac*, dated at *Patna* the 1st and 2d Instant, the former confirming, by his Advice, Captain *Jennings*'s Intelligence, with regard to *Shuja Dowla* and *Coffin My Cawen*; and again expressing his Hopes, that the *Bombay* Detachment have been detained here; the latter representing the great Inconvenience to which the Army is exposed on Account of the extraordinary Scarcity and Dearness of all Sorts of Grain, and the Discontent which it occasions among the Troops; and requesting we will send Orders to *Burdwan* and *Cossimbazar*, for forwarding them Supplies as speedily as possible; likewise recommending the Removal of Captain *Grant*'s Battalion of *Seapoys* up to the Army, as they have been uninfected, and having a Battalion lent from Camp to *Chittagong* in their Room.

Agreed, We reply to these Letters of Major *Carnac*'s; acquainting him, that immediately on Receipt of his last Letter, the President wrote to the Nabob, desiring he would send Orders to his Officers in *Purnea*, *Dinagepoor*, and *Raddhy*, and the other Districts, where Grain is most plentifully produced, to collect all they could, and send large Quantities to *Patna*; and recommending to him, as we look upon this the best and most likely Expedient for procuring Supplies, to repeat the Necessity of enforcing these Orders: That the Stores for Captain *Pimble*'s Detachment are now sending up to *Ghyrottee*, and that it will be ordered to march from thence as soon as they are completed: That the *Bombay Seapoys* form a Part of this Detachment, but as there is no more than One Battalion for the Protection and Service of all the *Chittagong* and *Dacca* Districts, it is impossible that any Part of them can be spared to go to the Army: That we observe from his Letters, as well as those from Captain *Jennings*, the Reason which there is to expect, that *Shuja Dowla* will either come himself, or favour an Invasion into *Babar*: That if these Advices should prove to have Foundation, we think it will be more advisable to carry the War into *Shuja Dowla*'s Country, than to wait for his entering the Province: That we desire therefore he will, immediately on such Confirmation being received, if he thinks he can depend on the Disposition and Affection of the Troops, march the Army across the *Arumnaffa*, and proceed to act offensively against the Enemy, to the best Advantage: That in the mean Time we shall hold further Reinforcements in Readiness, consisting of the Detachment of the 84th Regiment, the Marines of the Squadron, and a Party of the Artillery, which will in all make about 200 Men, with Two Pieces of Cannon, to march and join him whenever it shall be judged necessary.

19th March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, President,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Leycester*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

#### Major Carnac's Letters.

Received Two Letters from Major *Carnac*, dated the 7th and 8th Instant; the former advising us of his Arrival at the Camp, and that all Accounts agree, that *Meer Cossim* has engaged *Shuja Dowla* to march this Way—I hat the mutinous Spirit of the Troops is far from being suppressed; for that the Officers assure him, they have Intimations there will be a further Demand made of the Donation Money, both by *Europeans* and *Seapoys*—That a Havildar of Captain *Galliez*'s Battalion expressed himself so insolently on this Matter, he has thought proper to confine him, and send him down to *Calcutta* in Irons; and that he has also ordered down Five *Europeans*, who have been some Time under Confinement for Desertion and other Crimes, and recommends their being sent on Board the King's Ships. The Letter of the 8th incloses Duplicate of that of the 7th, and confirms the Intelligence of *Shuja Dowla*'s moving this Way.

26th March 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
*William Billers*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Leycester*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire,  
Mr. *Hastings* indisposed.

#### Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 15th Instant, inclosing a Paper of Intelligence from the King's Camp, and advising us, that finding *Shuja Dowla* was on the move towards him, he has thought it incumbent upon him to advance the Army towards the Frontiers, to oppose the Enemy's Entrance into the Province; that he has judged it necessary to make another Dividend to the Troops, to the Amount of Twenty Rupees to each private *European*, and Half that Sum to each *Seapoy*—that the *Seapoys* have now received each 30 Rupees, which he looks upon to be as much as they are intitled to, and that this was intimated to them, at this last Payment—that one of the Companies made a little Stir on the Occasion, but that it ended with his punishing Two or Three *Seapoys*, who were principally concerned, and turning them out of the Service; that the Officers, from a Conviction the Men will never be in right Temper, so long as any Part of the Donation remains due to them, have agreed, not to receive their Proportions, till the Soldiers have had their intire Shares—that after the Desertion of so many *Frenchmen*, he could entertain no favourable Opinion of the few who staid behind, and could not avoid being suspicious they did so with some ill View, and that he has therefore ordered Captain *Martin*, with the Remainder of his Company, down to *Calcutta*.

29th March, 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Commodore Tinker*,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,

*Randolph*



Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
John Burdett, Esquire.  
Messrs. Middleton and Lyeffer indisposed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a Letter from Major Carnac, dated the 18th Instant, inclosing One he has received from *Shitabroy*, to which he refers us, for Information of *Shuja Dowla's* Intention against us; and expressing his Concern to find, that by the Advices from *Calcutta*, of the 8th, the Reinforcement under the Command of Captain *Pemle* had not yet begun their March; that their being so late, renders it next to impossible for them to join him in Time, and that he must therefore put every Thing to risk, with the Force he has at present, however little to be depended on, after what has passed; further advising us, that he would fain cross the *Carumna*, and give the Enemy a Meeting, as far as possible from the Boundary, but that he fears the Distress they are in for Provisions, being only supplied from Day to Day, will not permit his doing so; and that he shall be obliged to keep close by the *Ganges*, to secure a Conveyance by Water; having had Intimation, that the Enemy's Design is to hover at a Distance around them, and endeavour to cut off their Supplies.—That a Treaty of Alliance has been some Time in Agitation, between the Nabob and *Bukwanising*, the Rajah of *Banaras*: That the Nabob is now very anxious for its being brought to a Conclusion; and proposed to him, that Evening, setting his Seal thereto, on the Part of the *English*, without which the Rajah will not enter into any Engagement: That he shall be very unwilling to take a Step of such a Nature, without first knowing whether it be agreeable to us; but that the present Exigency will not admit the Delay of waiting our Answer.

Having duly considered this Letter of Major Carnac, we are unanimously of Opinion, That as *Shuja Dowla* has now openly espoused the Cause of *Cosim Aly Cawn*, and encourages his Design of an Invasion into Bengal, we can entertain no further Thoughts of entering into a Treaty with him: On the contrary, we think it our Duty to form against him all the Enemies we possibly can; that the proposed Alliance with *Bukwanising* will therefore be a very proper Measure, and prove, as well now as in all Time to come, a strong Barrier and Defence to the Bengal Provinces.

Agreed therefore, That we write to Major Carnac, advising him, that we shall approve entirely of his entering into the intended Treaty, in Concert with the Nabob; and of his engaging to protect and maintain *Bukwanising* independant, both now and hereafter: That the Detachment, which in our Letter of the 12th, we mentioned we should hold in Readiness, will march this Day from *Ghyrotte*, under the Command of Captain *Wemyss*, so that we have now reinforced him with every Man that is capable of bearing Arms: That, for the Defence of this Part of the Country, particularly the Province of *Burdwan*, against any detached Parties which may be sent to make Inroads by the Way of the Hills, we are completing the Battalions at *Burdwan* and *Midnapoor*; and shall call Captain *Grant* from *Chittagong*, with all the *Scapys* in those Parts, excepting one Battalion of the new Establishment; and that this Force, with what Assistance Commodore *Tinker* may yield us, for the Service of the Artillery, is all we have to depend on: That we must still suppose the Nabob has issued Orders to his Officers, for sending to *Patna* all the Grain that can be collected in the different Countries; but that, for his Satisfaction and our own, we shall write to Mr. *Gray*, to be certainly informed, and direct him also to advise him; and if the Officers have not received Orders to that Effect, to purchase all he can on Account of the Company, and forward it on to *Patna*: That we inclose him a Letter from the President to *Shuja Dowla*, with an *English* Translation for his Perusal,

which, if he think it advisable, at the Time he arrives; he will please to forward on.

Agreed, That the Letter to *Shuja Dowla* be to the following Purport:

That it is reported, he has received *Cosim Aly Cawn* into his Friendship, and that he is marching this Way, in order to support his Cause: That, considering the former Connections subsisting between him and the Chiefs of the Company, we cannot give Credit to this Report: That we are persuaded he has the utmost Regard for Justice, and that he will not act in so unaccountable a Manner: That if however such are his real Intentions, we shall not neglect to do what is necessary on our Part; and that it is our Resolution to keep this Country free from Troubles, and to carry the War into his Dominions, and desolate and lay waste his Country.

3d April 1764

At a Consultation: PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President;  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,  
Ralph Lyeffer, Esquire,  
Mr. Burdett, indisposed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a Letter from Major Carnac, dated the 22d Instant, acquainting us, That the Enemy are all collecting at and near *Banaras*, and making Preparations for throwing Bridges across the *Ganges*: That he would willingly push over the *Carumna*, with an Intention of obstructing their Work, but that the Nabob is utterly averse to entering *Shuja Dowla's* Country, being unwilling to do any Thing that may be construed as a Commencement of Hostilities on his Part; further repeating his Complaints on Account of the great Scarcity of Provisions, and acquainting us, that not chusing to rely on his sole Judgment in so critical a Case, he consulted Major *Champion* and the Captain of the Army, with regard to crossing into the Enemy's Country, and the Station in which they are at present encamped; and that they are entirely against moving till a Supply of Grain is secured; and agree with him, that at *Buxar* they are most advantageously posted for watching the Motions of the Enemy: That he has ordered a Bridge to be laid over the Mouth of the *Carumna*, for passing the Troops, as soon as he has collected a Stock of Grain, when he proposes advancing up the *Ganges* to oppose the Enemy's crossing it; or, should they be crossed, to offer them Battle.

Agreed, we reply to Major Carnac's Letter; acquainting him that he has already been advised of the Reinforcements ordered to Camp under the Command of Captains *Pemle* and *Wemyss*, so that he will find such Orders to those Officers as he may judge requisite, in consequence of the Operations of the Enemy, and the Disposition they may make in advancing into the Country; particularly in Case any Detachments of their Force should pass between him and *Bengal*.—That we are endeavouring to raise a Party of the Volunteers who were under Captain *Wedderburn*, to be employed again in the same Manner, in armed Boats on the River, on any necessary Service: That we desire therefore he will direct the Boats, which we are informed are at Camp, to be repaired, and kept in Readiness for embarking them; or, if he thinks proper, he may send them down to meet the Party at their March up: That expecting the Nabob's Arrival in *Calcutta*, we have delayed enquiring into the State of his Revenues and Expenses, and the other Branches of his Government, which are necessary for settling the Articles of the Treaty; but that, as that Prospect is now very uncertain, we must request he will make the best Enquiries he can, and inform

inform us of the State of the Nabob's Finances, and how they are managed; as his Complaint of Want of Money appears to us extraordinary, considering he has had the Time for making the heavy Collections of the Year, and but small Disbursements that we know of: That it is necessary we should be also acquainted with the State and Expence of the Nabob's Army; what Number of Troops he keeps up, and what Principal Officers he employs and depends upon.—That we should be glad to know further, who are the Principal Officers about his Court, and in his Councils.—That we know *Nundecmar* to be one, and to have the chief Management of his Correspondence:—And as we have had too frequent Experience of this Man's intriguing Disposition, and are certain that he has many Connections in *Shuja Dowlah's* Court, we have Reason to suspect that he will employ these Connections, at so critical a Juncture as this, against our Government, as a Security for himself in all Circumstances:—That we cannot be too much on our Guard against any such Designs, and we should wish therefore to have him entirely removed from the Nabob's Service:—That, if he thinks he can bring the Nabob to consent to his Dismissal, we would have it done immediately; but that, if he thinks the Nabob will not consent to it, we would have him keep those Sentiments entirely to himself, lest it should cause a Jealousy in the Nabob, or excite *Nundecmar* to form worse Designs, from the Apprehension of such an Event, and content himself with taking all possible Precautions to prevent his carrying on any Correspondence with the Enemy:—That it is evident there has been a shameful Neglect with respect to collecting Grain for the Army, since *Meer Cossim* was driven out of the Country before the Harvest was reaped; and there never was known a more plentiful Crop: That this we cannot help regarding as a particular Instance of the Mismanagement or wilful Neglect of *Nundecmar*, knowing it to be his Duty, from his Post, to have attended to that Business: That we formerly applied to the Nabob for Tuncaws on Account of the Company; Three Laaks to be paid at *Patna*, five at *Cossimbazar*, five at *Calcutta*, and five at *Dacca*; to which Application he replied, He would grant them when he came to *Calcutta*; but that the Time of his coming being now very uncertain, the President has wrote to him again for the same Tuncaws; and that we desire he will represent the Necessity of his granting them, as the Company's Affairs suffer much for want of Money, and we are afraid of being distressed to answer even our Military Expences, and our daily Demands:—That there is another Object of general Concern, upon which also we must desire he will apply to the Nabob, if he thinks Circumstances will admit of it; we mean the Fund for Restitution of the Merchants Losses in the late Troubles, for which no Provision has been yet made, and which, we perceive by the Accounts already delivered in, will amount to a very considerable Sum, notwithstanding the Regulations we have laid down for reducing the Prices of every Kind of Goods to the lowest:—That we are obliged to request his Assistance in these Points, until Mr. *Watts* shall arrive at his Station with the Nabob, when he will take the Burden of them off his Hands, and inform him of all his Proceedings.

Consultation, 9th April 1764.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated 26th March 1764, inclosing one which he had received from Captain *Maclean*, advising him of a very daring Attempt made by One of the Subdars of his Battalion, to decoy his Company over to the Enemy; and acquainting us that the Man having been tried by a Court Martial, composed of Black Officers of the Battalions, and found guilty of the Charge alleged against him; and the Court having given it unanimously as their Opinion, that he deserved to be blown from the Mouth of a Cannon for

the same, he had him accordingly executed in that Manner, the same Afternoon, at the Head of the Army, and expressing his Hopes that this public Execution will strike a Terror amongst the Troops, and awe them into better Behaviour for the future.—The Letter further advises us, that there is now no Doubt of a Bridge being finished over the *Ganges*; but they have such various Accounts of the different Quarters by which the Enemy intend penetrating the Province, that though they were provided for advancing on, yet he thinks it most advisable to wait at *Buxar*, and watch what Way they turn their principal Force, that they may move thither to oppose them. Also inclosing a Paper of News, which, after finishing his Letter, he had received from the Nabob.

Captain *McLean's* Letter, and the Paper of News, being read;

Ordered, That they be entered after the Major's Letter.

The latter, on Perusal, is only found to contain Advice, that the Enemy are encamped at *Bulwar Ghant*, on the Banks of the *Ganges*, with the Particulars of their Force, and that Bridges for their Passage are building with all Expedition.

16th April 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
Commodore *Tinker*,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyster*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

Received Two Letters from Major *Carnac*, dated the 2d and 4th April 1764; the former inclosing the Proceedings of a General Court Martial held on Captain *Lieutenant Boyle*, which has occasioned his Dismissal from the Service, and repeating still his Complaints of the Want of Provisions; further mentioning, that he thinks Captain *Pemble* has been rather dilatory in his March, having received a Letter from him of the 23d ultimo, when he was only at *Plessey*, altho' he left *Ghyrottee* the 17th; the Second, advising us, that from Informations which he has received from *Mr. Abruff*, he has been led to entertain strong Suspensions of *Nundecmar's* Fidelity and Attachment, and that he apprehends he has ever been engaged in a private Correspondence with the Enemy: That, whatever may be the Truth, the Tenor of *Nundecmar's* Conduct argues strongly against him; to support which, the Major mentions the little Assistance we have as yet received from his Administration, and particularly instances the Distress of the Army for Want of Provisions: That the Countries from which we should receive our Supplies, have been by him put into the Hands of *Myr Cossim's* Creatures; to which we may add, that, whatever may be his Disposition with regard to the Nabob, we cannot reasonably expect he should have any Attachment towards us, considering the Circumstances of his having been long under Confinement with us, on an Accusation of a former criminal Correspondence; and his being fully convinced, that it is the Intention of our Government, if in their Power, to get the chief Management of the Provinces assigned over to *Roy Dulub*: That the very Suspicion (and for which there were such Grounds) of a Man in so high a Degree of Confidence with the Nabob, and who, if a Traitor, would have it in his Power to do us so much Mischief, was Reason sufficient for his wishing to have him removed, and that he had accordingly exerted all his Influence with the Nabob for that Purpose; but that he always insisted, in Reply to his Arguments, that he knew *Nundecmar* to be his Friend, and that *Roy Dulub* was a Traitor to him; and could be brought to no other Concession, but that if the one was sent away, the other should be dismissed also; to which the Major fears he will be obliged to submit, unless some

more

more eligible Expedient can be hit upon, as he thinks *Nundcomar's* remaining with the Nabob, after so public an Accusation, would alone render him our Enemy, tho' he were not so before. The Major further adds, That the continued Want of Grain has obliged him to retire towards the *Soane*, where he can more securely depend upon Supplies, and because all his late Intelligence agrees that the Enemy do not intend fighting us; but that their Delay at the Bridges near *Banaras* is to draw our Attention that Way, to give Time for the Division they are sending round by the Back of the Country, to get between our Army and *Patna*.

And Agreed, in Consequence of the Advice contained in the latter, That the Nabob be addressed by the President, in the Name of the whole Board, to the following Effect:

That it is with great Concern we find ourselves under the Necessity of remonstrating to him upon the ill Administration of the Affairs of these Provinces since his Accession to the Government, (strongly exemplified by the great Distress our Army has been in for Want of Grain, tho' the Country was freed from any Enemy before the Crop was cut, and that they were as plentiful as were ever known; in the repeated Complaints he has made to us of his Want of Money, tho' the heaviest Collections of the Year must have fallen into his Hands, and in general from the little he now seems able to give us for the Distress of our common Enemies, that we cannot impute these Evils to any but *Nundcomar*, under whose immediate Influence and Direction all the Affairs of his Government have hitherto been conducted; that these are strong Instances of his Misconduct and Negligence; but that what gives us still greater Reason to be dissatisfied with him is, that, from Advices lately received from Major *Carnac*, we have too much Reason to suspect he has been carrying on a secret Correspondence with the Enemy, and counteracting every Measure we have been taking for the Support of his (the Nabob's) Government; that, notwithstanding the repeated Representations which have been made to him (the Nabob) for Supplies of Grain, Major *Carnac*, for Want of it, has been obliged to return to the *Soane*: That this, with other Matters, which have been fully represented to him by Major *Carnac*, will effectually, we hope, convince him, that the Disapprobation we now express at *Nundcomar's* Conduct, arises only from our Friendship for him, and a Regard for our common Safety; that therefore, however backward and cautious we should at all Times be, not to interfere with the Officers of his Government, yet the wicked Mismanagement of *Nundcomar*, in the present critical Situation of our Affairs, obliges us to press and insist upon the immediate Removal of that Man from his Employ; that we take not upon us to recommend a Successor, resolving to approve of any Man whom he shall please to appoint, if he will but manifest a true Zeal for his Service; whatever Opinion we may have expressed of *Roy Dulah*, or Desire to have him employed, we are ready to acquiesce in his Removal to *Calcutta*, if such is his (the Nabob's) Pleasure, at the same Time that he sends down *Nundcomar*, being desirous to give him every Proof in our Power, that we are not swayed to make this Remonstrance from any Partiality to the one, or personal Dislike to the other; that we are not incautiously or unnecessarily interfering with his Authority, which we are determined to support; but are compelled, much against our Will, to press the Removal of this Man, who seems to be undermining both his Power and ours; that as we are giving now the strongest Instances of our Attachment to him, by exerting all our Strength to free his Country from our common Enemies, we must expect that he will so far concur with our Endeavours, as immediately to remove *Nundcomar* from his Confidence and Service; as the longer any Power continues in his Hands, the more endangered is our common Safety, by his Artifice

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and Misconduct: That we are happy in presenting this Address thro' the Hands of Major *Carnac*, of whose Attachment and Regard we have repeatedly had such strong Proofs, and with whom we have no Doubt he will be ready to concur in every necessary Measure for the Public Good.

Agreed also, That we do write to *Fort Saint George*, and to *Dacca*, *Cochin*, *Bombay*, and *Madras*, advising them of the Appearance there is of the Country's being invaded by a very numerous Enemy; and that, altho' we have no Manner of Doubt that our Forces under the Command of Major *Carnac* will defeat them, wherever they may be brought to engage, yet we think, from their Numbers, there is a Probability of their dispersing, and making sudden Incurursions into different Parts of the Country; and therefore judge it necessary to acquaint them, that it is not on any Account our Intention they should risk falling into the Hands of the Enemy, by attempting to make a Stand at their Factories, which are not calculated for Defence, or provided with Troops for that Purpose; but that, on the Approach of any formidable Body of Troops, we would have them to retreat in Time, with what Effects they can with Safety bring along with them.

Consultation, 26th April 1764.

Received Two Letters from Major *Carnac*, dated the 9th and 17th; the former repeating and explaining fully the Reasons which determined him to cross the *Soane*, and retire towards *Patna*; and advising us, that he is now convinced, from *Bukwant Sing's* Behaviour (of which the Major gives us an Account) that his proposed Alliance with us was only a concerted Scheme to draw us further on, and to favour *Sibya Dewla's* Design of getting between our Army and *Patna*—That, in consequence of our former Orders, he discharged a Number of Boats immediately upon his Arrival at *Patna*, inasmuch that he has at present scarce a Sufficiency for the Service; and that the Paymaster assures him the Accounts of the Army have been transmitted to the End of last Year, and promises to continue sending them down as regularly as possible—The last Letter acknowledges Receipt of ours of the 3d; and acquaints us, That it is something remarkable, that that was precisely the Day on which he had the Debate with the Nabob relative to *Nundcomar*; that our Coincidence of Sentiment with him in this Particular, amounts to Demonstration that there are strong Grounds of Suspicion, however we may want direct Proof against him; that yet that the Nabob is so obstinately attached to this Man, that he fears there will be no Possibility of removing him without having Recourse to Force, which, at this critical Juncture, it would, he thinks, be improper to make Use of: That his Excellency is so much out of Temper by this Affair, that it has occasioned his being so out of Order as not to be willing or able to enter upon Business for some Days past: That he has deferred giving any Answer to his Demand on the Article of Restitution, but had sent Orders, the Day before, to the proper Officers for the Payment, Three Laak at *Moorshedabad*, the said Sum at *Dacca*, a Laak and Half at *Nudya*, the same at *Honaghy*; and One Laak at *Patna*, of which he himself advises the President: That *Beny Babadra* is certainly come on this Side the *Carumassa*, by the high Road, so that there is no longer any Doubt of *Sibya Dewla's* intending to favour *Meer Cuffim*, which is further confirmed by a Letter inclosed, which he (the Major) had that Day received from the Vizier, to which he advises he had replied in the following Terms: That he was not to be prescribed by any but of the King of *England*, and the *English* Company, whose Servant he was; that he (*Sibya Dewla*) had gone such Lengths, that we could no longer look upon him but as an Enemy, and that the Sword must now decide be-

tween them; that he could not doubt of Success, as he was confident, from the Justice of our own Cause, we could not fail having Providence on our Side—He also incloses One to us, which he supposes is to the same Purpose; and advises us further, that the *Bombay* Detachment had joined him the Day before, and that he had sent on Two Battalions of *Seapoys*, with a Couple of Guns, and proposes advancing with the Army as far as he can be sure of being supplied with Grain.

The President also lays before the Board the following Translates of *Shuja Dowla's* Letters, received from the Major.

From *Shuja ul Dowlah* to the Governor and Council.

Former Kings of *Indostan*, by exempting the *English* Company from Duties, granting them different Settlements and Factories, and assisting them in all their Affairs, bestowed greater Kindness and Honour upon them, than either upon the Company Merchants, or any other *Europeans*; moreover of late his Majesty has graciously conferred on you higher Titles and Dignities than was proper, and Jagheers, and other Favours since; notwithstanding these various Favours which have been shewn you, you have interfered in the King's Country, possessed yourselves of Districts belonging to the Government, such as *Burawan* and *Chittagong*, &c. and turned out and established Nabobs at Pleasure, without the Consent of the Imperial Court. Since you have imprisoned Dependants upon the Court, and exposed the Government of the King of Kings to Contempt and Dishonour; since you have ruined the Trade of the Merchants of the Country, granted Protection to the King's Servants, injured the Revenues of the Imperial Court, and crushed the Inhabitants by your Acts of Violence; and since you are continually sending fresh People from *Calcutta*, and invading different Parts of the Royal Dominions, and have even plundered several Villages and Pargunnas belonging to the Province of *Iliahad*; to what can all these wrong Proceedings be attributed, but to an absolute Disregard for the Court, and a wicked Design of seizing the Country for yourselves? If you have behaved in this Manner in Consequence of your King's Commands, or the Company's Directions, be pleased to acquaint me of the Particulars thereof, that I may shew a suitable Repentment: But if these Disturbances have arisen from your own improper Desires, desist from such Behaviour in future; interfere not in the Affairs of the Government; withdraw your People from every Part, and send them to their own Country; carry on the Company's Trade as formerly, and confine yourselves to commercial Affairs. In this Case Imperial Court will more than ever assist you in your Business, and confer its Favours upon. Send inform some Person of Distinction as your Vacqueel, to inform me properly of all Circumstances, that I may act accordingly. If (which God forbid) you are haughty and disobedient, the Heads of the Disturbers shall be devoured by the Sword of Justice, and you will feel the Weight of his Majesty's Displeasure, which is the Type of the Wrath of God; nor will any Submissions or Acknowledgements of your Neglect hereafter avail you, as your Company have of old been supported by the Royal Favours. I have therefore wrote to you; you will act as you may think advisable; speedily send me your Answer.

From *Shuja ul Dowla* to Major Carnac.

Agreeable to his Majesty's Care for the Welfare of the People, I now write to you. Consider how the Kings of *Indostan* have given your Company Settlements and Factories, exempted them from Duties, and conferred greater Favours upon them than upon other *Europeans*, or the Merchants of their own Dominions: Since then, notwithstanding all these Favours, you have been guilty of Ingratitude to the Court; since you have

turned aside from your former Paths, and on the contrary have been continually marching your Troops into the King's Country; and since you have presumed to remove the Officers of the Imperial Court, and to turn out and establish Nabobs, What Kind of Behaviour is this? In case you have your King's or your Company's Orders for these Proceedings, be pleased to inform me of it, that I may shew a suitable Repentment. But if it is through your own Inclinations that you have plundered Villages belonging to *Iliahad*, and that you entertain your evil Designs, notwithstanding the Approach of the Royal Standards, it is proper you should desist from such Proceedings, and represent your Desires to me. In Case of your Obedience, our Favours shall be conferred upon you; otherwise the guilty and disobedient shall be utterly destroyed.

Consultation, 10 May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,  
The honourable *Henry Vanflitart*, Esquire, President,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esq;  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esq;  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esq;  
*Ralph Leycester*, Esq;  
*John Burdett*, Esq;

On the 8th in the Evening we received the following Letter from Major Carnac.

Gentlemen,

I have received your Favour of the 16th, with the *Persian* Letter from the President, and the same in *English*, signed by the whole Board, to be presented by me to the Nabob, in order to inform my Application for the Dismission of *Nundcomar*. I have before acquainted you of the Nabob's Attachment to this Man, and with my being obliged, to avoid coming to Extremities, to appear reconciled to him; and for the same Reason you will please my not delivering the President's Letter at this Juncture, as I firmly believe the Nabob is so infatuated, that he would rather give up every Thing than part with *Nundcomar*. His Excellency's Conduct subjects me to the greatest Inconveniences, and particularly to that of acting defensively. One would almost think he is engaged in a Combination against himself; and had I drawn near to *Panna* to cover it, as well as him, it is most likely he would have been carried off, and the City taken; there being many of the Enemy's Adherents both within his Camp and the Town; and it is more than probable, the Parties which have gone behind us were for that Purpose.

The Preservation of the *Sircar-serang* Country is of the utmost Importance to us for Provisions; yet, in spite of all my Remonstrances, it has been continued in the Hands of one *Ramchand*, a known Creature of *Mir Cossim*, whose Troops To-day are all gone over to the Enemy, so that we hourly expected News of their having entered that Pargunnah. As soon as Captain *Wemyss* arrives, I shall order a Detachment over for the Security of that Country. I propose keeping the Marines, and taking this Opportunity of separating our People, amongst many of whom the Seeds of Discontent still remain, which it has required my utmost Care to prevent from breaking forth. There is certainly somebody tampering with them; and a Number of Letters have been lately found dropped in the Camp, addressed to our Foreigners, with Intent to debauch them, One whereof I herewith send you.

The accompanying is *Shuja Dowla's* Answer to the last Letter from the President, which I took the Liberty to open. The main Army, of the Enemy must be pretty near us, though we can get no certain Intelligence of them, their advanced Parties of Horse plundering and destroying every Thing, in such a Manner that our Hircarras are afraid to approach them. I cannot conceive how they, being so numerous, will manage to subsist; and

and I think they must be so distressed as to attempt something decisive, and that very speedily.

I have completed the Reform of our *Seapoys*, and we have now Ten Battalions upon the new Establishment, pretty near complete in Number, but greatly deficient in Arms; some of them are extremely good; I cannot as yet say so much of the Four youngest. One is stationed at *Mongher*, and there are Two, besides the *Bombay Seapoys*, in Garrison at *Paina*. I have also formed Captain *Hay's* Troop, agreeable to your Directions; and the supernumerary *Horles*, except some spare ones that was necessary to keep, have been sold on the Company's Account.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

*John Carnac.*

Camp near *Paina*,  
the 30th April 1764.

Sir,

We must confess ourselves uneasy at the Necessity which you have been under of acting upon the defensive, and with it may soon be in your Power to change this Plan, as it is beyond Doubt that all our Successes against the Powers of this Empire have been owing to acting offensively, and always pushing to the Attack; and this Measure appears the more necessary at this Time, as the ill Disposition of our Troops is likely to be increased by nothing so much as Inaction: We are sensible of the Difficulties you have had to encounter; perplexed with the Nabob's bad Management, and receiving no Kind of Assistance from him; we have an entire Confidence in your Conduct and Care to provide against the ill Effects to be apprehended from such a Situation; upon which we shall give you our Sentiments, leaving it always in your Discretion to act as the Circumstances upon the Spot may direct you.

It appears to us, that *Shuja Dowlah's* Intention is to make Use of the Advantage, which he has in a numerous Cavalry, to distress you, and cut off your Supplies of Provisions; hoping by this Plan to gain his Point without the Risk of an Engagement, in which he might have less Expectation of Success, from the Superiority of our Discipline. In this View, he has succeeded so far, and we are apprehensive of the same Distress, which has compelled you to retire to *Paina*, may in like Manner make it as necessary for you to retreat to *Bengal*; as it will be in his Power, by sending Parties of *Horle* between you and this Province, to intercept any Supplies from reaching you.

As you have never mentioned what Stock of Provisions you have in the City, we have no satisfactory Information upon the Point; but, unless it is much greater than we can flatter ourselves it is, the daily Consumption, without any Supply, must soon reduce it. To avoid this Danger, if it is possible to take with you by any Means a Stock of a few Days, and by forced Marches bring *Shuja Dowlah* to Action, it appears to us to be an advisable Measure.

If you think this impracticable, or not advisable, the next Alternative that occurs to us is, to leave a Part of the Army strongly posted at or near *Paina*, for the Security of the City, or either conduct yourself or send the Remainder of the Forces across the River, to march from thence into *Shuja Dowlah's* Country, pushing directly for *Banaras*; by which they would not only cut off the Supplies which come to *Shuja Dowlah* from that Quarter, but probably induce *Bahadur Sing* to come over to our Interests, and join in distressing him on that Side. It is at the same Time probable, that, upon the Appearance of such a Force, other Parties may rise upon his Dominions, who may be glad to seize such an Occasion to favour some Pretensions of their own.

It is not supposed that *Shuja Dowlah* would leave his

own Country exposed to many Enemies, for the sake of carrying on an unprofitable War in *Bengal*; but if he should, notwithstanding the March of the Detachment of ours into his Country, take the Resolution of passing *Paina*, and entering *Bengal*, the Part of the Army left at *Paina* must come down to us by Water, excepting a Garrison of *Seapoys* for the Defence of the City; which when joined by the Force we have at *Burdwan*, and the Reinforcement we may soon expect from *Madras* and from *Europe*, will be sufficient to oppose him, and especially at a Season when the Rains will make it very difficult for *Horle* to act.

Concerning the Proceedings of the Party on the other Side of the River, in Case of *Shuja Dowlah's* Return; we can only say in general, that we would have the War carried on in his Country; for which Purpose our whole Force could join again in such Manner as you may find the most advisable.

With respect to the Nabob, his Preference will always be an Incumbrance to you; and it would be much better for him to remain at *Paina*, or return to *Calcutta*.

We cannot help expressing Surprise, that the Parties which have harassed our Camp have never met with Resistance from his *Horle*: If the Nabob keeps none, it is absolutely necessary that you should endeavour to entertain a Body of *Horle*, to act under your own Orders, and who must be paid by the Nabob.

*Henry Van Sittart,*  
*Samuel Middleton,*  
*Ralph Lyster,*  
*John Burdett.*

Fort William Consultation, 14th May 1764.

On the 11th Instant we received the following Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated Camp near *Paina*, the 4th.

Gentlemen,

The united Forces of the Enemy, who were exceeding numerous, and had with them a considerable Number of Cannon, presented themselves before us early Yesterday, in Order of Battle; and after cannonading some Time at a Distance, began, a little before Noon, a very vigorous and warm Attack. *Sombre*, with the Choice of the Infantry, supported by a large Body of Cavalry, made an Attack upon our Front; but not being able to advance upon so heavy a Fire as we gave them, they lay under Cover, waiting for the Success of the Assault upon our Rear, where the Enemy exerted their principal Efforts: It was Sun-set before we had completely repulsed them: Our People were so extremely fatigued with the Labour of the Day, and having been up most Part of the preceding Night, in Expectation of the Attack, that they were not able to pursue, and the Enemy took the Opportunity of the Dark to carry off their Cannon: I had enough to do to look to every Quarter, as I was obliged to divide my Attention between the City, the Nabob's Camp, and our own Post. All the principal Officers distinguished themselves in their respective Stations; and I cannot say too much of the good Behaviour of the Army in general, and in particular of the *Seapoys*, who sustained the Front of the Attack. The Enemy must have met with an immense Loss, as our Fire was very close, and extremely well distributed. I have not yet been able to get an exact Account of ours, in *Europeans* it is inconsiderable: Captain *Nottingham* and Lieutenant *Gardiner* are the only Officers wounded, but both dangerously; the former has received such a Wound as, it is thought, will occasion the Loss of a Leg; and the latter has had both his Legs broke.

I wait

I wait with Impatience to know what Effect this Success will have upon the Designs of the Enemy.

I am, with great Respect,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*John Carnac.*  
Camp, near *Patna*,  
the 4th May, 1764.

Agreed, We do now reply to this Letter, in the following Terms: That it is with real Satisfaction we have received the Advice of his Success: That so severe a Repulse given to the Enemy on their first Attempt, we should hope may be attended with the most favourable Consequences to our Cause; and that being extremely sensible of the Share which may be attributed to his good Conduct in this essential Service, we beg Leave to return him our best Acknowledgements: That it gives us Pleasure to observe, on this Occasion, that such a general Perseverance and Order prevailed among the Troops, particularly among the *Scapys*; and that we desire he will return our best Thanks to all the Officers and Men for that Bravery and good Behaviour.

Agreed, We do further advise the Major of Mr. *Watts's* Return; and desire he will use his Endeavours to persuade the Nabob to come down as soon as possible, as he must only be an Incumbrance to him in Camp, and we have many material Points to settle with his Excellency here.

*Fort William*, the 21st May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyeffer*, Esquire,  
Messieurs *Middleton* and *Burdett* indisposed.

Not having received any Advices from Major *Carnac*, since the Fourth Instant,

Agreed, We write to him, that this Silence has laid us under the Necessity of taking our Information of Affairs of the Army from Reports and private Letters. By these we are given to understand, that, ever since the Republic of the Enemy on the 3d Instant, their Army has lain within Two or Three Cofs of our Camp. That, latterly, frequent Messages have passed between their Camp and ours; and particularly, that *Mendis Aly Cawn* has come over to us with some of his Dependents. That as we are convinced of the treacherous Disposition of the People we have to deal with, and have no Accounts from him of the Plan on which he proceeds, we cannot help apprehending bad Consequences from this Delay, and that the Enemy may be endeavouring to amule, and gain Time to answer some Purpose of their own, perhaps forming Parties in the City of *Patna*, or in our Camp. That he will easily perceive, by the Tenor of all our Letters, that we had relolved, from the Beginning, not to treat with *Shuja Dowla*, if ever he took the Part of *Meer Cossim*, and that we departed not from this Resolution even when our Army was under some Difficulties; far less shall we think of such a Measure now, when he is at the Head of an Army which, we flatter ourselves, will be sure of Success whenever they engage. That we had a convincing Proof of the good Disposition of the Troops from their Behaviour in the last Action; and as his Apprehensions on this Head seem to be the only Point of Difficulty, we hope he has, before this Time, made use of their good Disposition, in attacking and driving the Enemy out of the Country. That we can entertain no Thoughts of treating with *Shuja Dowla*, having no Conception of

any Concessions which it is in his Power to make us: That the only ones we could ever listen to, must be the Delivery up of *Meer Cossim*, *Sambre*, and our Deserters; and those, from the Part they compose of *Shuja Dowla's* Strength, we judge it by no Means in his Power to perform; nor would we have our Operations suspended for the Space of One Hour, until these Persons are put into our Hands. That we have much Reason to imagine the Nabob may give into any Overtures for a Negotiation, from the vain Notion of holding the Subadar by the King's Authority, independent of our Support; but that he must by no Means be allowed to carry on any Correspondence without his (the Major's) Knowledge, neither, in the present Circumstances, to receive any Sunnuds from the King or *Shuja Dowla*. That in this and all other Measures the Nabob must be intirely ruled by him, whilst the War continues.

Agreed, That we further advise the Major of Captain *Sibbert's* Promotion to a Majority, relolved on this Day in the other Department.

Agreed, That we write likewise to Mr. *Billers*, the Chief at *Patna*, directing him, whilst the War continues, to advise us daily of the Occurrences, so far as may come to his Knowledge.

Received a Letter from Mr. *Gray*, at *Maulda*, dated the 13th Instant, acquainting us, that he cannot comply with our Orders of the 7th, for purchasing Grain, unless we send him a Sum of Money; that he however takes all Opportunities of encouraging the Merchants to send Rice to Camp, and that he has prevailed with several, to a large Amount.

Agreed, We write him in Answer, That, as it is not in our Power to send him any Supply of Money, we must be satisfied with the Measures he has taken for assisting the Army with Grain; and have only to desire, that he will continue to prevail on the Merchants to carry thither as large Quantities as possible.

*Henry Van Sittart*,  
*H. Watts*,  
*R. Lyeffer*,  
*John Burdett*.

Consultation 24th May 1764.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 16th, acquainting us, That he has delayed thus long writing to us, since his last, from his constant Expectation of a fresh Attack, which his daily Intelligence has given him Reason to believe the Enemy were preparing for: That he so effectually covers the Nabob, that he thinks it his Business rather to receive than give the Attack, especially as the Manoeuvre of the Enemy seems intended to draw him after them, that they may have an Opportunity of detaching a Party to carry off the Nabob, in which they would probably succeed, was he to leave them; that besides, in his present Position, he can contain the *Scapys*; whereas, when they are pushed forwards, there is no Possibility of preventing them from pressing on and breaking, which Captain *Swinton* and himself have experienced in One or Two Skirmishes, not being able to stop them from advancing irregularly and firing, tho' they threw themselves in their Front: That he is sorry to have Occasion to add, as another Reason to his little Dependence on a Part of his *Europeans*, occasioned by an uncommon Instance of Misbehaving in a Detachment of about One hundred and Twenty of them, which he had sent in the 13th and 14th, with Captain *Smith's* Battalion of *Scapys*, to reconnoitre to the Eastward of the City, in Expectation of surprising some of the Enemy there; that by some Mismanagement they were fired upon from the Walls of *Patna*, tho' without receiving any Damage; but that the Whole of the *Europeans* were immediately to the Right about; that this may perhaps have arose from a general Panic occasioned by the Firing, but that he rather suspects it was done designedly by

by the Foreigners, of whom the advanced Guard was chiefly composed; that Captain Smith's *Seapigs* notwithstanding proceeded in the Course he had directed; but found Nobody: That Captain *Weyms* with the Marines had joined him; but he left Captain *Maugen* on the other Side, with the Remainder of the Detachment, where he has performed a very material Service, in defeating a Body of Troops collected by the disaffected Zemindars in the Sircar Sarang District, which he hopes will secure to us that Country: That, as the Enemy have kept so long hovering about their present Station, he thinks it probable they do not chuse to involve themselves further Downwards; and if they continue to keep aloof, he shall watch their Motions, and wait for an Opening to attack them with the least Risk and the most Advantage: That he has received our Letter of the 26th ultimo, with the Letter for *Skuja Dewla*: That *Nandcomar*'s late Behaviour has been such as to remove almost entirely the Suspicion of his being engaged in Treachery, however faulty he may have been in other Particulars: That ever since the Appearance of the Enemy he has, by his Master's and his own earnest Request, kept close to him (the Major) which is a strict Argument that he was not concerned in any treasonable Practices, as he was under his Eye, and could not of consequence himself reap any Advantage therefrom.

The President lays before the Board the following Translates of Letters which he has received inclosed in One from the Nabob.

From *Skuja Dewla* to the Nabob.

Dated the 12th of May 1764.

Formerly, when these Provinces were in your Possession, the *English* making an Agreement with *Meer Adabomed Cossim Cawn* carried you to *Calcutta*, and appointed him to the Government; afterwards they quarrelled with him, and brought you again from *Calcutta*; agreeably to the hearty Friendship I have for you, I was much rejoiced at hearing this News; and you must accordingly remember the Letters which I wrote to you some Time ago. Upon your Arrival on this Side of *Paina*, I procured you the *Sunnuds* from the King, and intended dispatching them to you, with a *Kelhaat*: In the mean Time I received Advice that the *English* were making a Disturbance, and wanted to send you by Force from *Sassat* to *Calcutta*. Since notwithstanding his Majesty had conferred Honours upon you, and the hearty Friendship I bear you is clearer than the Sun, yet the *English*, regardless both of the Royal Favours and my Friendship, were guilty of such unjustifiable Behaviour; I therefore marched this Way, not at *Meer Cossim*'s Desire, but because I could not suffer the King's Country to be so ruined and destroyed. Now that his Majesty has bestowed these Provinces upon my Son *Ashob-ul-Dowla*, who is your Nephew, look upon yourself as the rightful Manager of all the Affairs of Government, and deliver it from the daily Insults to which it is exposed. Affairs shall not remain upon their present Footing, nor shall the Hand of any One be upon you; the Districts which belong to the *English* I will get confirmed to them by the King, in calc of their Faith, Obedience, and Attachment.

From *Rajah Bery Babadre* to the Nabob.

The Negotiations which were some Time ago carried on by *Rajah Shitabrey*, whether he spoke by your Authority, or of his own Head, went on successfully; but they were afterwards interrupted by the Ministers of the Court, who caused the Preference to be given to the Enemy's Desires, and accused me of siding with you and the *English*. I hitherto have remained silent,

for want of an Opportunity having offered. I have overlet the Cause of the Enemy and his Adherents: But whilst I am negotiating in this Manner, I am uneasy, lest you and the *English* Chiefs should refuse to act agreeably to my Representations, and I should thereby fall into the utmost Disgrace; I have therefore sent *Chinta-byram* to you with all Expedition, who will fully inform you of every Circumstance. If this Affair meets with your Approbation, be pleased to acquaint me with your Pleasure, and, by the Blessing of God, every Thing will be happily settled, and whatever Agreement I make will be complied with; if not, inform me so in plain Terms, that we may act accordingly.

From the Nabob to *Skuja ul Dowla*, in Answer.

I have been honoured with your friendly Letter. At the Time when that Tyrant, *Meer Cossim*, fled from these Provinces to your Highness's Dominions, the *English* were desirous of pursuing immediately, over the Bridge which he had passed, in order to bring him to Justice for his Violences and Oppressions; but I forbade them, and prevailed upon them to encamp on *Durgaenta Nulla*, on this Side the *Carumnassa*, for their Four Months past. What earnest and repeated Solicitations have been made you, both by the *English* and myself; but you would by no Means listen to our Requests; through the Intrigues of wicked Men you have refused Justice to the *English*, and have proceeded to these Lengths. Although in the Time of former Nazims the Affairs of these Provinces have always been negotiated at the Imperial Court through the Means of the Head Buckshy, yet on Account of my hearty Attachment to your Highness, I have ever represented my Affairs to you; and as you were several Times graciously pleased to do me the Honour of declaring that you would be answerable for my Business, I set my Heart at Ease, in full Confidence in your Promises, and never made Application to any other Person; and the *English*, through my Persuasions, were so faithfully attached to you, that they were ready to attend you, and to sacrifice their Lives in your Service. Now, likewise, if you will do them Justice on that Tyrant *Meer Cossim*, they will not be negligent in shewing their Fidelity to you; and my Attachment and hearty Obedience will daily encrease.

From the Nabob to *Rajah Bery Babadre*, in Answer.

I have had the Pleasure of receiving your Letter, wherein you write that the Negotiations which were carried on by *Rajah Shitabrey* went on successfully, but were afterwards interrupted by the Ministers of the Court, who caused the Preference to be given to the Enemy's Desires, and accused you of siding with me and the *English*: I hat till this Time you had no Opportunity of speaking on the Subject; but now an Opportunity having offered, you have overlet the Cause of the Enemy and his Adherents: That you are uneasy lest I and the *English* Chiefs should refuse to act agreeably to your Representations, and you should thereby fall into Disgrace: That you have therefore sent *Chinta-byram*, who will inform me of all Circumstances: That if you meet with my Approbation every Thing will be happily settled, and whatever Agreement you make will be complied with; if not, that I should inform you in plain Terms, that you may act accordingly.

*Chinta-byram* has acquainted me with all Particulars, and I explained the Whole to Major *Carnac*, the Commander of the *English* Army; who replied in the following Terms: "When *Meer Cossim* fled out of this Country into the Vizier's Dominions, the *English* Chiefs were desirous of pursuing him immediately, " in order to revenge themselves on him; but in Com-

"pliance with your Desire, they halted at *Durgauty* *Nulla*, on this Side *Carumnessa*; and, for the Space of Four Months, made continual Complaints to the Vizier, requesting him to punish *Meer Cossim* for his Oppressions and Cruelties: His Highness, far from consenting to do us Justice, even listened to the Intrigues of the Enemy, and complied with his Desires: Nevertheless, if he will now favour us, and either deliver *Meer Cossim* and *Sombre* into our Hands, to be duly punished, or himself imprison them, in Recompence for their Crimes, the *English* are still ready to perform the Duties of Obedience and Fidelity; but, till Justice is done us, other Matters cannot be treated of." In case his Highness will be kind enough to revenge the Cause of the *English*, I likewise will not fail to shew forth a due Obedience and Acknowledgment. With regard to what you write concerning your having overlet the Enemy's Cause, and your being un-  
easily left you should not gain my Consent and the *English* Gentlemen; in case you can prevail upon the Vizier to do Justice, either Way, as above-mentioned, and will be answerable for it, be assured that you will meet with our entire Approbation, as you will be fully informed by *Chenylarara*.

Agreed, We write to Major *Carnac*, inclosing him Copies of these Letters, and acquainting him we find from them, that the Enemy have made Proposals for trading, and Proposals have been given them, that we might be inclined to come to Terms: That we advised him in our last, and now repeat, that we shall receive no Proposals from *Siraj Dewlah*, neither would we suffer any of his Messengers to come into our Camp, or the Nabob's, unless *Meer Cossim*, *Sombre*, and our Deserters, be sent delivered up: That the Nabob, in his Answer to *Bery Babadre's* Letter, we must suppose, has said in his (the Major's) Name, more than ever he could assent to; but how far soever he may be made privy to this Negotiation, we cannot help expressing our Surprise, that he takes no Notice of it in his Letter now before us. Further, in Answer to his Letter, That we have paid due Regard to the Reasons which he urges for having continued to act so long upon the defensive; but that we must say they do not carry the same Weight with us: With regard to the Nabob, That he cannot possibly expect, nor can our whole Army ever be allowed to remain in a State of Inaction, merely to protect his Person, especially when it is considered that this End may be as effectually secured by his retiring into *Panna*: That on this Step, therefore, he must immediately determine, unless he should rather resolve to accompany our Army, and take an equal Chance with them in attacking the Enemy: That the Misbehaviour of the Party of *Europeans*, in the Night of the 13th and 14th, we hope may have been owing entirely to the unexpected Fire on them from the Walls of the City; but if, on the contrary, there is really any Remains of Mutiny or Disaffection among the Troops, it is certain there is nothing so dangerous, or can tend more to encrease such a Disposition, than waiting in Inaction the Attacks of the Enemy: That this is a strong Reason for pursuing the Plan we have recommended of acting offensively; and a still stronger is, that if we allow the War to be protracted in this Country, it will be impossible for us to supply him with the immense Sums of Money which are now required in defraying the Expenses of the Army: For we already find ourselves greatly distressed to discharge the Draughts from the Paymaster, and answer the Demands of other Detachments, which have taken the Field, with the current Expenses of the Settlement: That the Nabob's Welfare and Interest being so intimately connected with ours, we think he cannot well refuse to assist us in this Point, whenever he has it in his Power; and that we therefore desire he will represent to him the present Necessity, and en-

deavour to obtain a general Order on the *Naibs* of *Moorshedabad* and *Dacca*, for the Payment of whatever Sums we may call for, on our Receipt: That in his Letter he acknowledges to have received ours of the 26th ultimo, with the President's Letter to *Shuja Dowlah*; but does not mention his having sent it to him; that if he has not, we desire he will please to forward it, according to our first Intention, as we think it is proper that Letter should be sent him at all Events.

29th May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Vansittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Commodore Tinker*,  
*John Spencer*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Hugh Watts*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Leicester*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 19th Instant, acknowledging the Receipt of ours of the 7th and 9th, and acquainting us, in Answer to the latter, That he has long had in View the Operation we recommend as the Alternative, and thinks it bids the fairest for totally disconcerting the Enemy; but that it cannot be begun till the Arrival of Captain *Wedderburn*; by which Time he also expects the Waters will be risen; and will then, unless in the Interim he has the good Fortune to perform something decisive, set about putting it into Execution: That *Bulwant Sing*, he always suspected, was only amusing him with the proffered Treaty; and his Conduct has demonstrated it so, for that he is personally with *Shuja Dowlah*; and his Troops were amongst the most forward in the last Attack: That in the Precautions we have taken to have him supplied with Grain, and the Advantage of the River, he shall be secure of Provisions: That in his present Situation, he finds no other Inconvenience but the Want of Cavalry; and that he proposes, therefore, employing *Mendee Ally Cawn*, to raise a Body of *Mughals*, amongst whom he has much Interest, and to add to *Mirza Shabar Beg's* Troops.

The President lays before the Board, the following Translations of further Letters from the Nabob, &c. on the same Subject as those mentioned on last Consultation.

From the Nabob.

Dated 15th May 1764, (13th Zeeadda of the 5th Year) received the 26th Ditto.

I have already sent you Copies of Letters which I have received from the Vizier of *Rajah Bery Babadre*, and of my Answers to them; by the Contents thereof you must be acquainted with the King's having granted the Three Provinces to the Vizier's Son. At present *Rajah Bery Babadre* and *Affud Ally Cawn*, Brother to *Golaum Ally Cawn*, deceased, who is an old Friend of the Vizier's, in Consequence of his Highness's Directions, have written to me, in Answer to my Letters, to give up only the Province of *Panna*. Copies of these Letters, and my Answers to them, I have sent inclosed; for your Observation; when you are acquainted with the Particulars thereof, be pleased to let me know what you think advisable to reply to this Demand, that if they again treat with me on this Subject, I may write to them accordingly.



Copy of a Letter from Mharajah *Beny Babadre*, to the Nabob.

I have had the Pleasure to receive your Letter, mentioning that in Case the Court will revenge the Cause of the *English*, you are ready to perform the Duties of Obedience and Fidelity. The Sentiments of Friendship, which were before engraved on my Heart, are not expressed in the Contents of your Letter; but I imagine you have good Reason for writing in such a Manner: Out of the great Regard I have long had for you, I entered on a Negotiation with you, notwithstanding your unfriendly Behaviour. I was in Hopes, that, in order to make Amends for your past Neglects, you would have given your Consent, and settle Things on a proper Footing; all depends upon the Blessing of God, and your and the *English* Gentlemen's Approbation. As there is a hearty Friendship between me and *Affud Aly Cawn*, and every Negotiation is carried on with his Concurrence, I have fully acquainted him with all Circumstances tending to our mutual Welfare, and he will write them for your Information: Since you are a Man of Understanding and Experience, you will doubtless give your Consent to what he represents to you. In Case of your Approbation, be pleased to inform me thereof, that I may send him to you; if not, whatever is the Will of God.

Copy of a Letter from *Affud Aly Cawn* to the Nabob.

I, with Mharajah *Beny Babadre*, presented to the Vizier your Letter in Answer to mine, which I had the pleasure of receiving at 9 o'Clock in the Morning; and the Mharajah presented to him the Letters which he had received from you; and at the same Time Mharajah *Nundcomar*'s Letters, and our Hazee, were presented to him by *Hosjan Aly Beg Cawn*; on Perusal of them, his Highness was much displeased; and said to Mharajah *Beny Babadre* and me, "When a Person has put himself under the Protection of the King and the Vizier, where is the Justice and Propriety of delivering him into the Hands of his Enemies, or imprisoning him? that they have made such Demands: The Contents of their Letters can by no Means be productive of Good."—After many Representations, his Highness declared his final Resolution as follows: "Let the Province of *Patna* be resigned, the Authority rests with us, we will appoint whomsoever we please to the Neabut of the Province; when this Point is agreed to, we will consider about punishing the Enemy, and doing Justice to the *English*; otherwise they must be rooted out and destroyed". Moreover, his Highness has given strict Orders that no one should correspond with you; but Mharajah *Beny Babadre* and I have written you the Particulars, agreeably to his Highness's and Mharajah's Orders: Consider them well, and send me such an Answer, that these Disturbances may be removed. Inclosed is a Letter from the Mharajah.

Copy of the Nabob's Answer to Mharajah *Beny Babadre*.

I received your Letter; wherein you write, That the Sentiments of Friendship, which of old were engraved in your Heart, are not expressed in the Contents of my Letter; but you imagine I have good Reason for writing in such a Manner: That out of your Regard for me you entered on a Negotiation with me; notwithstanding my unfriendly Behaviour, you were in Hopes that I would now settle Matters, in order to make amends for past Neglects: That all depends upon the Blessing of God, and mine and the *English* Gentlemen's Consent: That you have acquainted *Affud Aly Cawn* with all Circumstances tending to our mutual Welfare; that I shall be informed of them by Letter from him, and you will send to me in Case of my Approbation; if not, whatever is the Will of God.

*Affud Aly Cawn*'s Letter has acquainted me of the Particulars of this Affair. As I had the greatest Confidence in your Friendship, I did not expect you would have written to me in such a Manner; I am in the utmost Surprise at your making so unexpected a Demand of me, and at your regarding my Request, that the *English* may have Justice done them, as contravert to the Ties of Friendship. Had you formerly promised to punish the Enemy, on Condition of my assenting to so improper a Demand as you have now made in *Affud Aly Cawn*'s Letter, my Obedience would not have carried me so far as to engage me in any Thing productive of Shame and Repentance; nor should I have neglected the Care of Honour. Since you are inclined to War, you will not be pleased with any reasonable or just Proposal that I may make you, if such are your Views, no Agreement can be made, and till an Agreement is made, the sending *Affud Aly Cawn* would be useless; as for the rest, whatever is the Will of God is best; he that cannot procure Justice from the King, will procure it from God. I have written an Answer to *Affud Aly Cawn*'s Letter; by that you will be acquainted with the Particulars.

P. S. From the Contents of your last Letter, I perceive that what you said to me by *Chintabrom*, and what you wrote me in the Letter which you sent by his Hands, was all a Dream.—Where such Inconsistency appears, it is a difficult Matter for a Kingdom to flourish.—In all Cases I am very ready to obey any reasonable and just Command: A little Attention and Consideration is necessary on your Part also.

Copy of the Nabob's Answer to *Affud Aly Cawn*.

I have been favoured with your Letter, acknowledging the Receipt of One from me; and mentioning that you, with Mharajah *Beny Babadre*, presented it to the Vizier; and that at the same Time my Arzee to his Highness, and Mharajah *Nundcomar*'s Letters, were presented to him by *Hosjan Aly Beg Cawn*: That he was displeased on Perusal of them, and said to Mharajah *Beny Babadre* and you, "When a Person has put himself under the Protection of the King and the Vizier, where is the Justice or Propriety of delivering him into the Hands of his Enemies, or imprisoning him? that they have made such a Demand; The Contents of their Letters can by no Means be productive of Good: That it is his Highness's final Resolution that I shall resign the Province of *Patna*: That he will appoint whomsoever he pleases to the Neabut thereof: That when this Point is agreed to, he will consider about punishing the Enemy, and doing Justice to the *English*, and that otherwise we must be rooted out and destroyed: That he has given strict Orders for no one to correspond with us but Mharajah *Beny Babadre*, and you; and that you send me inclosed a Letter from the Mharajah." What shall I write to so unjust and unreasonable a Demand? How can I consent to a Proposal so foreign from my own Inclinations, and so contrary to the Rules of Friendship? As his Highness has been pleased to rest his doing Justice to the *English* upon so unequitable a Condition, it is evidently his Resolution not to do them Justice; you could yourself repent in a proper Manner the Unreasonableness of this Proposal, but that you are restrained by the Fear of offending; I have by no Means neglected the Duties of Obedience and Fidelity: Notwithstanding it has always belonged to the Head Buckhly to negotiate the Affairs of these Provinces, yet I placed my whole Dependence upon his Highness the Vizier, and not to any one else; and now this is the Reward I reap. My Letters contained Nothing but a Petition of Justice, and Professions of Fidelity: Since then his Highness is nevertheless offended

at it, to what can this be attributed but to Deceit and Artifice? Since my sincere and just Representations are not contented to, but produce such unreasonable Demands in Reply, I shall remain silent in future; if you think it unjust and improper to inflict due Punishment on such a Tyrant and Murderer, on Account of his having put himself under the Protection of the King and Vizier, with what Right do you order me to give up the Province of *Patna*, which has so lately been confirmed to me by Firman and Sunnuds under their Seals? With regard to what you write about me considering this Affair, The past is gone; the future is uncertain. This is my State at present; what will it be To-morrow? In case I now consent to this Demand, what remains for me to do hereafter?—Since such are his Highness's Intentions, it is unnecessary and useless to carry on any further Correspondence. With regard to the rooting us out, and destroying us, we depend on the Blessing of the Almighty, and trust that he will fulfil our Hopes. I have sent for your Perusal, Copies of Two Letters in Answer to those received from Mharajah *Beny Babadre*.

As by these Letters it appears, That a Correspondence, and Steps to a Negotiation, are still carrying on between the Nabob and *Shuja Dowla*, we think it absolutely necessary to have a Gentleman stationed at the Durbar, to send us the necessary Advice, on this and many other material Points; and as, in the present Situation of Affairs, it would be too much Time lost to send a Resident from hence;

Agreed, Mr. *Batson* be appointed to attend constantly at the Nabob's Court, and that we do write him the following Instructions:

Sir,

As the constant Attention which Major *Carnac* is at present obliged to pay to the Motions of the Enemies, and the Operations of our own Army, may prevent him from obtaining and sending us the necessary Information of what passes from the Nabob's Court, we have thought proper to appoint you Resident at the Durbar: We direct therefore, that you enter upon this Office immediately on Receipt hereof, transmitting to us daily Advice of every Thing that occurs.

By the inclosed Copies of some Letters which have passed between the Nabob, *Shuja Dowla*, *Beny Babadre*, and others, you'll perceive that Terms have been proposed for a Negotiation; but we have yet heard nothing on this Subject from the Major; we must desire you will inform yourself, as far as you can discover, what may be the Nabob's Motives and Views in such a Scheme, and what Steps have been taken in it; for our own Part we are resolved to enter into no Treaty with *Shuja Dowla*, unless *Meer Cossim*, *Sombre*, and our Deserters, be first put into our Hands, as a Preliminary; you will therefore acquaint the Nabob that this is our Resolution, assuring him we will accede to no Treaty he shall make, on any other Terms.

In our Letter to Major *Carnac*, of the 3d April last, we desired he would inform himself, and advise us, of the State of the Nabob's Finances, and how they are managed; the State of, the Number, and Expence of, his Army; the Names of the principal Officers he employed, and depends upon, and of the principal Persons about his Court, and in his Councils; we have also desired, in later Letters to the Major, that he would apply to the Nabob for general Orders on the Naibs of *Moorshedabad* and *Dacca*, to pay us whatever Sums we may have Occasion to demand, on our Receipt, in order to assist in defraying our present heavy Expences, and for Tuncaws for Twenty Laaks of Rupees towards the Payments of Losses from the Restitution Fund. The Execution of all these Points will now become your Duty, and we desire you will exert your best Endeavours to satisfy our Enquiries, and obtain the Orders

and Tuncaws as soon as possible; we should think a Compliance with the Money Demands cannot subject the Nabob to any Inconvenience, as he has had the Time in his Hands for making the heavy Collections of the Year, and no large Disbursements that we know of.

We have acquainted Major *Carnac* of your Appointment, and sent him a Copy of these Instructions, recommending to carry on any Business he may have with the Nabob jointly with you.

We have only further to recommend to you, the greatest Vigilance and Attention, and to desire that you will be particularly careful in conducting yourself towards the Nabob, in order to preserve as great a Confidence as possible between his and our Government.

As Mr. *Batson* may possibly have left *Patna* before these Instructions can reach there;

Agreed, Mr. *Billers* do in that Case take the Duty of Resident upon him, leaving the Business of the *Patna* Factory, as far as may be necessary, in Charge of the Second.

Agreed therefore, That another Paragraph be added at the End of the Instructions, advising of this our Intention, and that the outer Address be to Mr. *Billers*, in Case of Mr. *Batson's* Absence.

Agreed, We write to Major *Carnac*, advising him of this Appointment, inclosing him Copy of the Instructions, and recommending to him, agreeably thereto, to carry on any Business he may have at the Durbar, jointly with the Resident:—Further, in Answer to his Letter, that the Measure of crossing over the River with Part of the Army, and carrying the War into *Shuja Dowla's* Country, was only an Alternative proposed on the Supposition that it would not be in his Power to bring the Enemy to Action; that this is far from being the Case at present, as they have for some Time past kept our Army in a Manner invested; and we would therefore by no Means recommend that Measure now, until he has first brought them to Action on this Side, and defeated them, and then of Course he must pursue them, and prosecute the War in the most advantageous Manner: That we have now repeatedly given him our Opinion for attacking the Enemy; but if he really thinks this Measure impracticable, we desire he will acquaint us fully with his Reasons, and what Plan he would propose for bringing the War to an Issue; and that we must beg he will be very particular in every Circumstance, that we may be enabled to form a proper Judgment, and co-operate with them to the utmost of our Power: That we do not think any Confidence can be reposed in *Mendes Aly Cawn*, or any other Person that deserts from the Enemy, and we therefore cannot approve of his Proposal to place him at the Head of a Body of Cavalry, on the contrary, we must recommend his keeping a watchful Eye over him, to prevent his engaging in any treacherous Designs: That in raising the *Mogul* Cavalry, we should chuse he should entertain only the inferior Officers and private Men, and give the Command of them to Captain *Spelman* and the other former Officers of our Cavalry: That, according to the Country Establishment, they are for the most Part liable to be so defrauded of their Pay by their Jemautdar, which renders them remiss in their Duty, and indifferent for the Good of the Service they are engaged in; whereas, by becoming subject to our Discipline, and receiving their Pay in a regular Manner, we may expect they will in a short Time be attached to us and our Officers, as much as our *Scopys* are.

H. Watts,  
Samuel Middleton,  
R. Lyeffer,  
John Burdett,

Henry Vanflitter,  
J. Spencer.

Consultation, 7th June 1764.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter, which he has received from Mr. *Billers*.

Dear Sir,

I have received your Favour of the 12th Instant. On the 23d in the Morning, the Enemy left the Ground where they have for some Time laid encamped, and retired about Three Co's from our Army, where they again pitched their Tents; we have not been able to discover with Certainty, whether the Whole or only Part of their Forces remain there; at least there is Reason to believe, from the Motion of their Baggage and some other Circumstances, that their Intentions are to quit our Neighbourhood.

Major *Carnac* having thought proper to fix the Departure of the private Letters from hence to Two Days in the future only, you will not be alarmed if the Dawks do not arrive with you so frequently as usual.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

*Patna,*

*William Billers.*

the 25th May 1764.

He further acquaints, That by a Letter from the Nabob of the 25th May, he is advised that *Shuja Dowla*, dispirited by the ill Success of his Troops in the *Sircar* Serang Country, and of those collected under the Rajah of *Carrickpore*, had broke up his Camp the 23d, and was retiring towards his own Dominions; but he (the President) is informed by other Letters, that their Army had retreated no further than *Pulwarae* the 28th, and that our Army still remained in their first Encampment.

Agreed, We do write to Major *Carnac*, advising him of the Purport of Mr. *Billers*'s Letter, and the further Information which the President has received: That this being the only Intelligence we had received of such an Alteration in our Affairs in the *Babar* Province, we have not sufficient Grounds for giving him any further Instructions; but that we cannot help declaring ourselves highly offended at his neglecting to write to us, from the 19th to the 29th, after receiving our Orders to write every Day; and we must desire he will acquaint us with his Reasons for this Disobedience: That we also desire to know the Reason for his having limited the Departure of private Letters from *Patna* to Two Days in the Week, as, by his own Letter of the 19th, he apprehended no Danger of our Correspondence being interrupted; and it appears that this Order was not issued till after the Receipt of our Directions to write daily, and after the Enemy had quitted their Encampment and retired from us: That we desire in future there may be no Alteration made in the Course of the Dawks, and that the President, at our Desire, has accordingly directed Mr. *Billers* to dispatch them every Day as usual: That we shall hope for satisfactory Reasons for his having suffered the Enemy to retreat so much at their Leisure, without molesting them; and we should imagine it is unnecessary to repeat here the Sentiments we have already so explicitly declared to him, forbidding any Proposals for a Negotiation to be received, unless *Meer Gossim*, *Sombre*, and our Deserters, be first delivered up.

Consultation, 11th June 1764.

Received a Letter from Mr. *Billers*, dated the 31st ult. acknowledging Receipt of our Orders of the 21st, and acquainting us that the Enemy had moved off, and, by the best Intelligence he could get, were near the *Same*.

Vol. III.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 1st Instant, acquainting us, That the Enemy have been continually shifting their Ground round the City of *Patna*, at the Distance of about Four Co's, that there was no Possibility of judging their Intentions; that he therefore could not address us without the Risk of deceiving us; and so various were their Accounts, that each Day's Letter would have been a Contradiction of the past; and that this has been the Reason of his long Silence: That it is probable, that the Enemy's frequent Change of their Position was in order to prevent his acquiring such a Knowledge thereof, as would have enabled him to attack them with Advantage; and that their Cavalry has been so properly disposed off, that he could never reconnoitre without skirmishing, nor get near enough to make the necessary Discoveries. That the Enemy's keeping so short a Distance from him was no Doubt through the Hope of being able to get into the City, or to carry off the Nabob by some Treachery, and for the better Opportunity of debauching our Troops; and that his Precautions have effectually defeated their Schemes: That one of the Nabob's Officers in the City had engaged to give the Enemy Admission at his Post; he had him hanged at the Place which he was appointed to defend: That Three *Frenchmen* have got off to the Enemy, a Fourth was taken in the Attempt, for which he ordered him instantly to be hanged, without the Ceremony of the Court Martial; and that no Attempt has been made since: That *Shuja Dowla*, finding himself deceived in the fond Hopes he had of carrying all before him, has evidently, for some Time past, wanted to introduce a Negotiation, in order that he might go back, and yet save his Credit: That he has Letters in Proof thereof from most of his Great Men, which, he thinks, are dictated by *Shuja Dowla*, though his Pride would not permit him to make the Advance directly for himself: That he incloses us some of the original Letters, with the Copy of One which he has received from the King, mostly written in his own Hand; and that he has wrote him the Answer, which he has invariably given to all who have interferred; That he would hearken to no Terms of Accommodation whatever, unless *Meer Gossim* and *Sombre* were first delivered up to him: That with regard to Captain *Swinton*, he has acquainted the King he would comply with his Request, provided a Person of the first Rank amongst them was sent to remain with him as a Hostage; that he was in Expectation of some one being sent accordingly, but that the Vicer, he supposes, could not be brought to submit to his Demands: That the Whole marched off the 30th, and great Part got to the Mouth of the *Seane* that Evening, and that he expected shortly to hear of the having crossed it: That he is selecting a Detachment to be crossed directly over to the *Ganges* near Country, under the Command of Major *Champion*, where he shall order him to do all the Mischief he can till the Rains are set in, during which he may canton at *Chupra*, and the Whole may then be ready to renew the Campaign in the Enemy's Country the Moment the Season will admit of it.

That we are determined to prosecute the War against *Shuja Dowla*; and being of Opinion, that the Rains will not be any Impediment to the Operations; but, on the contrary, with regard to receiving Provisions and Stores, rather a Convenience, from the Advantage of the Rivers; we hereby direct, that he do immediately put the Army in Motion, leaving the necessary Gunns in *Patna* and *Mongheer*, and cross the *Seane*, and pursue the Enemy as far as the *Ganges*, opposite to *Banaras*, endeavouring, if possible, to bring them to an Action: That in any Operations on the other Side of the River, it is our View to make as much Advantage as we can, without lessening greatly the Strength of our Army, by the Detachment that is sent; that they may

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therefore

therefore endeavour to take Possession of the *Gauzypoor* Country, and collect its Revenues, to assist in defraying the Expences of the War: That we desire the Officer commanding may be instructed, and that it may also be observed as a general Rule on all other Occasions, to prevent any Ravages being committed on the Country, or Injuries being done to the Inhabitants; on the contrary, that all Manner of Encouragement and Protection be given them, in order to gain their Affections: That we have directed Captain *Grant*, with the Two Battalions of *Seapoys*, and Two Guns, which are at *Jelloogurr*, to march on to *Paina*, from whence they may be ordered on such Service as the Major may think proper: That having many necessary and material Points to settle with the Nabob, we have wrote to him, and Mr. *Botson*, to come down to *Calcutta*, and have desired the Nabob to leave with the Major such Part of his Cavalry as he thinks may be of Service, and recommended to him to discharge all the useless Troops of his Army; also to deliver into the Major's Hands Securities for the Payment of Two Lacks of Rupees a Month, to defray the Expences of the Army.

Fort William, the 14th June 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Van Sittart*, Esquire, President,  
Commodore *Tinker*,  
*John Spencer*, Esquire,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriott*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Leicester*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire,  
Mr. *Watts* indisposed.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 5th Instant, acquainting us, that he forgot in his last Address to acknowledge the Receipt of our several Letters of the 14th, 17th, and 21st ult. and that he has since received that of the 24th: That the Plan he has pursued, has been to the full as disagreeable to them, as he finds it is to us; yet the State of our Affairs seemed to require it, and so probably we would ourselves have judged, had we been upon the Spot; that had he acted otherwise, he must have run counter to the unanimous Sentiments of all the principal Officers, whom he consulted upon the Occasion, which was more than he could answer to, where so much was at Stake: That the Event has in some Measure decided in Favour of this Sentiment, as the Enemy have been reduced to the Necessity of withdrawing, without his putting any Thing to the Risk: That our Army, if staunch, was a full Match for the Enemy, must by all be readily allowed; but it was generally believed, especially by such as had been Witnesses of the former ill Behaviour, that Disaffection still prevailed amongst many of the *Europeans*, which was restrained from breaking forth, only through the Fear of Punishment, and the Want of Opportunity; and that a Number would have deserted, but that it was rendered exceedingly difficult so to do, by the Position he had taken, and the good look out that was kept: That how far the Spirit of Mutiny is, yet from being thoroughly quelled, we may judge from the Proceedings of a General Court Martial held on Two Men, which he informs: That he thinks it very natural the Nabob should be very desirous of holding the *Nezamut* by virtue of the Royal *Phirmand*, the Religion as well as Education of all *Musulmen*, teaching them to regard this as the only regular constituted Authority; yet *Meer Jaffer* has not appeared to them to be of himself over forward for a Negotiation: That in this Particular he certainly has been influenced by *Rey Dulok*, who has all along been

extremely desirous of one: That he well knows *Mefages* frequently pass between him and the Enemy on the Subject, but as this was not the proper Channel, he gave himself little Trouble about it, and deemed it unnecessary to give us any: That when Offers were made to himself, the Reality whereof he was assured of, he communicated them, with his Answers, which were conformable to our Orders: That he deferred forwarding the Letter from the President to *Shuja Dowla*, in Hopes he might at length be induced to deliver up *Meer Cossim* and *Sombre*, for the getting of whom into our Hands, he persuaded himself, we would with Pleasure have sacrificed our Resentment against *Shuja Dowla*; but as that Point is not likely to be obtained, it will serve as an Introduction of our Detachment into his Country, and he will take Care to have it transmitted to him by the first safe Opportunity, with one from himself to the same Purpose: That the Nabob is very ready to make the several Assignments we require, but wishes to have them deferred till his Arrival in *Calcutta*, for which he purposes shortly setting out, and is extremely anxious that himself should accompany him: That he only waits our Permission to come down accordingly, to prepare for his Passage Home, which he is determined to take this Season: That the Enemy are all over the *Saone*, and Major *Champion* has crossed the *Ganges*, but his Embarkation was a good deal retarded by the strong Easterly Winds which have of late prevailed: That the Detachment consists of upwards of Three hundred *Europeans*, Rank and File, including the Marines, and Captain *Mangen's* Company, Three Battalions of *Seapoys*, with 5 Six-pounders, and 2 or 3 smaller Pieces: That he has gleaned the Foreigners from this Detachment, and would recommend their being disarmed (except some few, of whose Attachment he is convinced) and sent to serve on Board His Majesty's Ships: That by this Means a Confidence may again be acquired in our Troops, without which no vigorous Measure can ever be undertaken.

This Letter of the Major's having been fully considered;

Agreed, We do write him the following Answer.—

That we think it absolutely necessary to proceed against *Shuja Dowla* without Loss of Time, nor stop till we have convinced him that we are capable of acting offensively as well as defensively; otherwise we shall, without Doubt, be liable to have the Provinces invaded, whenever the State of Affairs in his own Country will admit of his turning his Thoughts this Way: That we must therefore (with the Exception herein after mentioned) repeat our Orders of the 11th Instant, for the Army's crossing the *Saone* without Delay; and we have great Reason to believe, that the Plan therein laid down will be rendered more effectual by the Attacks which it is probable *Shuja Dowla* will receive from *Gauzooridin Cawn*, the *Jauts*, and the *Marattas*, who are reported to be actually on their March to invade his Country: That we have always been of Opinion, and still continue to think, that the Force under his Command is quite sufficient to act offensively against *Shuja Dowla*; and that himself was of the same Opinion, in his Letter of the 17th of April, which was some Time after the Mutiny, and before he was joined by Captain *Wemyss's* Detachment: That we must also here repeat our Sentiments, that a Spirit of Mutiny is much more likely to break out in an Army acting upon a defensive, than an offensive Plan; however he mentions, that the principal Officers have all along agreed with them in the Expediency of acting defensively. We desire he will now communicate our Orders of the 11th Instant, and this Letter, to the other Field Officers, the Commandant of the King's Troops of the *Bombay* Detachment, and of the Artillery, and the Three senior Captains, which

with his own is in all Nine Voices, and let them give their Opinions separately in Writing, whether they think our Plan practicable with the Force at present under his Command; if not, what Addition of Troops will be requisite, that we may reinforce them accordingly; it being absolutely necessary, for the Reasons above-mentioned, to act upon the offensive: That these Opinions, after taking a Copy, he will please to transmit immediately to us; and if Two-thirds of their Opinions should concur, that the present Force is insufficient for executing the Plan proposed, we would not have the Army advance further than the Banks of the *Seane*, until the Reinforcements arrive; and we desire he will, in such Case, caution Major *Champion* not to advance so far as to be compelled to engage with a Force too superior to his own: That such of the Foreigners, particularly *Frenchmen*, whom he has Reason to suspect of being mutiniously inclined, we desire he will send down to *Calcutta*; and that we have ordered Captain *Kinlock* to march up immediately with his Company: That we have already, oftener than Once, expressed a Desire of seeing the Nabob in *Calcutta*, and are glad to find he intends coming soon: That with regard to the Major's Request, he has our Permission to come down whenever he thinks proper, leaving all our Instructions with Major *Champion*, for his Government in commanding the Army.

Samuel Middleton, Henry Van Sittart,  
R. Lyeffer, J. Spencer.  
John Burdett,

At a Consultation, 21 June 1764; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Van Sittart, Esquire, President,  
Commodore *Tinker*,  
John Spencer, Esquire,  
Warren Hastings, Esquire,  
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,  
Hugh Watts, Esquire,  
Samuel Middleton, Esquire,  
Ralph Lyeffer, Esquire,  
Mr. Burdett, indisposed.

Received the following Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 10th Instant:—My *Bychu* has been again with me, and brought me Letters from the King *Munyr o Dowlab*, and *Shakir o Dowlab*, with Assurances that *Myr Cossim* should be arrested and punished; and *Shuja Dowlab* has himself wrote to me, declaring, he would abide by what *Munyr o Dowlab* promises. I have returned with him this general Answer: That nothing could procure them a Reconciliation with the *English*, and their Friendship, but the actual Delivery to us of *Myr Cossim* and *Sombre*. The Nabob and his Ministers are of Opinion, that this will at least be consented to: I cannot say, I flatter myself with so happy an Event; yet, whilst there are the faintest Hopes of these Villains being consigned to our Vengeance, surely we owe to much Regard to the Memory of our murdered Friends and Countrymen, to try to bring it about; to effect which, I think we ought readily to forgive *Shuja Dowlab's* Invasion. I entirely concur with you, Gentlemen, that Peace ought not to be made with him upon any other Terms; and that he is desirous of an Accommodation seems probable, from his having dispatched Expresses to call to him *Shiatray*, who is daily expected at their Camp. *Shuja Dowlab* must come to a speedy Determination, as the Scene of War is now shifting towards his Country, Major *Champion* having begun his March, though I fear he will not be able to proceed far, as the Rains appear to be setting in, and our Troops have suffered so much from the former Campaign, as not to have Strength sufficient to bear the Fatigues of another; however, they may be cannoned so near as to have it in their Power, in case

Matters be not accommodated, to commence the Campaign in the Enemy's Country early the next Season, by which Time it is to be hoped our Army may be so weeded and reformed as to act with a Confidence of Success.

I have been favoured with your Letter of the 29th ultimo. I shall give over all Thoughts of employing *Mendy Ahy Cawn*, as you disapprove thereof; but must beg Leave to differ from you in Opinion, that a serviceable Body of Cavalry can be formed upon the Plan you propose; the *Mogulls*, who are the only good Horsemen in the Country, can never be brought to submit to the ill Treatment they necessarily receive from Gentlemen wholly unacquainted with their Language and Customs. We daily see the ill Effects of this amongst our *Seapoys*, and it will be much more amongst Horsemen, who deem themselves of a far superior Class; nor have we a Sufficiency of Officers for the Purpose. I am sorry to say, not a single One, qualified to afford a Prospect of Success to such a Project. Captain *Spelman* is entirely wore out, and no longer fit for Service in the Field.

Received Two Letters from Mr. *Batson*, dated the 9th and 10th Instant; the former acquainting us, That he has taken Charge of his Office at the Durbar; that a Correspondence has been some Time opened between the King, *Shujab Dowla*, *Beny Bahadre*, and others, and the Nabob; and that Major *Carnac* has also received Letters from them; that he finds the Nabob has an Inclination to treat and come to an Accommodation with the Enemy, though there appears to him but few Signs of Sincerity on their Part; neither can he conceive what Motives or Views the Nabob can have therein; that he conjectures he is desirous of making a Friend of *Shujab Dowla*, at present a troublesome and dangerous Enemy to him, and that he wishes to see his Interest strengthened by his Alliance, rather than to depend upon us alone for Support; and he supposes, for the Accomplishment of these Ends, he is willing to make considerable Sacrifices: That in the fresh Letters from the King, *Shujab Dowlab*, &c. they are very earnest for having Captain *Swinton* sent to them, in order to promote an Accommodation; and they promise *Meer Cossim* shall be punished, but not delivered up; of which Letters he will procure and send us Copies: That the Nabob promised to give him an Answer, the next Day, to his Application for General Orders on the Naibs of *Moorshedabad* and *Dacca*, and the 20 Laaks of Rupees towards the Restitution Fund; and that he shall inform himself as particularly as possible, and duly advise us on the other Points recommended in his Instructions, as well as of every Thing that passes at the Durbar, worthy our Notice. In the second Letter he informs us, That the Nabob says, he cannot give the General Orders required, nor the Money for the Restitution Fund, until the Poonea is paid, which is to be fixed in a short Time: That *Shiatray* is shortly expected, in order to carry on a Treaty for an Accommodation, though he knows not what Good can be expected from it; and that the Nabob thinks *Shujab Dowlab* will demand the Province of *Babar*, in Return for the Delivery of *Meer Cossim*.

These Letters having been read, and considered; Agreed, We write the Major the following Answer:

The Object we have in View is the same as your's; that is to say, the obtaining the Surrender of *Meer Cossim*, *Sombre*, and our Deserters, into our Hands; but we always have been, and still continue to be, of Opinion, that we never shall carry on this Point, or any other, by Negotiation, unless our Army is at the same Time in Condition, and actually in Motion, to enforce the Demand. In our last, we desired the Opinion of the Nine principal Officers, Whether they think our Force sufficient to act offensively against *Shujab Dowla*?

*Dowla*? If they do, a vigorous Use of that Force is the most certain Way to obtain the Concessions we require: If not, to treat is only to expose our own Weakness; for it never can be supposed that *Shujah Dowla* will give up Points so much to his own Dishonour, to an Enemy, whom he is convinced is capable of acting against him in all Cases. Therefore we are of Opinion that no Good can come by treating, but that it may be productive of dangerous Consequences, from the Opportunity it may afford the Enemy of carrying on treacherous Designs under that Cover. For these Reasons, we have frequently, in former Letters, forbid treating on any other Terms than the Preliminary beforementioned; and, for the further Explanation of our Sentiments, we now positively direct, that the next Messenger who comes from the Enemy's Camp be sent back, with an Answer in Writing to *Shujah Dowla*, declaring plainly, That he is not to hope for a Reconciliation with us, on any other Terms than the Surrender of *Meer Cossin*, *Sambie*, and our Detesters; and that any Person whatsoever, who afterwards may come to the Camp with any other Proposals, shall be imprisoned as a Spy; and if, notwithstanding this Declaration, any such should come, you are, without fail, to treat him accordingly.

As we perceive, by Mr. *Batson's* Letters, that the Nabob seems much inclined to an Accommodation, and thinks that *Shujah Dowla* will probably require some Concessions on our Part, such even as the Surrender of the Province of *Babar*; we judge it necessary to acquaint you, that we will not consent to the giving of any Money on the Cessions of any Territory, either as Jagheer or otherwise; and that nothing shall be stipulated on our Part, in return for his Compliance with our Demands, but a Promise, that we will not invade his Country, in return for his Attack upon us, nor join or assist his Enemy.

All these Directions we mean shall be equally binding on the Nabob as yourself, our Interests in this respect being inseparable; and we therefore direct, that no Messages be suffered to pass between him and the Enemy, nor Treaty be carried on between them on any other Terms than those prescribed to you; and of Course, that no Cessions of Money or Territory to *Shuja Dowla* be allowed of; you will accordingly acquaint the Nabob with the Directions we have given you, with respect to any Messengers from *Shuja Dowla*, desiring he will give the same Answer to the first Messenger who comes to him; and inform him, that we expect he will treat all who may come afterwards in the Manner we have ordered you.

With the Copies of the Letters you sent us from the King, &c. you omitted to forward Copies of your Answers; neither have you sent us the Letters which *Meer Cossin* brought at his last Coming; we desire you will send us these, as well as the Copies of all your Correspondence with the Country Powers, that after Perusal they may be transmitted to the Court of Directors: We further desire you will send us a Copy of the Orders you have given to Major *Champion*; and that it may be always a Rule, when any such considerable Detachments are sent out, to transmit us a Copy of the Instructions given to the Officer in the Command.

You speak of Major *Champion's* carrying the War into *Shuja Dowla's* Country, as a Measure to be pursued, if the Rains do not prevent him: We desire to know the Plan upon which you intend he should proceed; as we cannot conceive how you can suppose him, with the Part of the Army under his Command, to be able to act offensively in *Shuja Dowla's* own Country, when you with the whole Army could not take the Field against him here, or attack him when he was within a single March of the City of *Paina*; and how the whole Army will be more able to act offensively after the Rains than they have in this Campaign.

Consultation 15th June 1764.

Received a Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 16th Instant, acquainting us that the Detachment he ordered over the *Ganges* has procured the Effect he expected from it; for upon Advice of their having crossed the *Dewa*, and begun Hostilities in the Districts of *Gauzy-poor*, *Shuja Dowla* has judged it necessary to retire towards his own Country; that whilst he continued in the Neighbourhood of the *Soane*, the Major did not think proper to quit his Station near *Paina*; but he now proposes crossing the *Ganges* himself immediately, though he fears himself the Season is too far advanced for his being able to do much more than strike the Alarm, the Troops already beginning to feel the Effects of acting in the Rains.

Received Two Letters from the Resident at the Durbar, dated the 14th and 16th Instant; the former inclosing a List of the principal Officers employed at the Nabob's Court; and acquainting us, that *Nandcomar Roy* is the Person in whom he chiefly confides, and by whose Advice he is guided in all principal Affairs; and that, next to him, the Kinsmen *Haken Beg* are in the greatest Trust: That the Kealiram, a Person belonging to *Shitabroy*, is come from the Enemy with Letters, and Messages and Letters are frequently coming; that, as far as he can judge, they are endeavouring to prevail on the Nabob not to take away the Jagheers possessed by *Shuja Dowla* and other principal Persons belonging to him and the King, and to prevent Major *Champion's* Expedition against *Gauzy-poor* from being put in Execution. In the Second he incloses a Paper of News, lately received from *Delly*, explaining the Dispositions of the chief Powers of *Indostan* towards one another, and confirms the Intelligence contained in the Major's Letter, as to *Shuja Dowla's* further Retreat.

*Shuja Dowla* having now decamped from his last Post on the other Side of the *Soane*, and taken the Rout towards his own Country, there remains no Kind of Argument for the Nabob's making any longer Stay at *Paina*: And as the Points which we have to settle with him are of the most essential Consequence for the Security both of his Government and our own;

Agreed, We write to Mr. *Batson*, desiring he will repeat to the Nabob for his coming to *Calcutta* in the most urgent Manner, and prevail on him to set out without Loss of Time.—In further Explanation of the Company's Orders, in regard to the Method of conducting the Correspondence with the Country Government, and with a View to render their Intentions in this Point more effectual.

Consultation, 28th June 1764.

Received the following Letter from Major *Carnac*, dated the 17th Instant.

Some Time after the Dispatch of my Address to you Yesterday, I received your Letter of the 7th, together with its Duplicate.

I have already assigned to you the Reason of my so seldom writing to you, viz. that I was unwilling to deceive you, which I must have frequently done, had I wrote daily, so various were the Movements, and contradictory our Accounts, of the Enemy; whenever I had certain Intelligence, I never failed immediately communicating it to you.

It was natural enough to conjecture that the Enemy, as they had not been able to effect any thing, would be for going away; and upon this Conjecture Mr. *Bilkers*, I suppose, gave his Information; for they had been only shifting their Ground for several Days, and did not actually move till the 30th ultimo, nor did they take any *Punahry* Road; and of this Movement we were brought in Doubt the next Day by a Pair of *Hircarrah*, who declared they were just come in from them.

them, and that they had drawn nearer to us. It was necessary to be fully ascertained, in so material a Point, before I wrote to you: By a reconnoitering Party I found these Hircarrahs had grossly imposed upon me (I have some Suspicion they were tutored fo to do) and this occasioned a Delay of One Day in addressing you.

So many Letters were daily dispatched from Camp, that our Dawks, in case of being intercepted, had it not in their Power to secrete their Packet; I therefore, upon Advice that the *Kurningpur* Rajah had crossed some People over the River, thought it best to limit the private Correspondence to Twice a Week, that so the public Letters might have a better Chance of passing, which were still to go in the usual Course; so that Mr. *Billers* had no Occasion to delay the forwarding his Letter to the President; I don't recollect the exact Time when I recommended this Regulation to take place, but it was soon discontinued.

I judged the pushing a strong Detachment over the *Ganges*, and entering the Enemy's Country by that Side, to be the most effectual Means of precipitating them Homewards, and this we see has answered. I doubt, if they had not been obliged to look to their own Frontier, whether they would have so quickly quitted ours; and as their principal Force consists in Cavalry, which appears to be extremely good, and to be well versed in what their peculiar Advantages consist, they might have led us about the Country, without aiming to any thing decisive.

Read the Letter inclosed from Major *Champion* to Major *Carnac*.

Agreed, We write the following Answer to the Letter from Major *Carnac*.

That we are resolved to continue the War against *Shuja Dowla*, until he submits to the Conditions we have prescribed; viz. the Delivery of *Meer Cossim*, *Sombra*, and our Deserters; that the Object therefore of the Detachment on the North Side of the *Ganges* must be to prevent *Shuja Dowla* from crossing the River, by destroying any Bridges he has made, or may attempt to make, over it; taking Possession at the same Time of as large Tract of his Country as they can, and, if possible, of the City of *Banaras*, and collecting the Revenues; but avoiding all Manner of Plunder and Ravage; particularly, should the Detachment advance so far as to seize the City of *Banaras*, special Care must be taken that no Plunder is committed there: That we suppose the Remainder of the Army, which was left at *Patna*, has, agreeably to our Orders of the 14th, advanced to the Banks of the *Sone*; if not, that this will be a necessary Caution, as long as *Shuja Dowla* remains on this Side the *Ganges*, to prevent his re-crossing into *Bengal*; and the Army likewise, from that Station, will be nearer at Hand to join Major *Champion*, or to reinforce him, in case *Shuja Dowla* should have marched so fast as to get to *Banaras* before him, or any other Circumstances render it necessary: That whenever *Shuja Dowla* shall submit to the Terms above-mentioned, we desire our Troops may be withdrawn out of his Territories.

N<sup>o</sup> 68.

*Fori William*, the 20th February 1765.

To *John Johnson*,  
*Ascanius William Senior*,  
*Samuel Middleton*,  
*Ralph Leicester*, Esquires.

Gentlemen,

HAVING thought proper to nominate you a Deputation from the Board to get the Treaty with the new Nabob, *Najim ul Dowla*, and some consequent Arrangements and Instructions executed, we herewith inclose the Treaty in Two Copies, executed on our Part; and when the Nabob has acceded to the Articles on his, you will deliver our Copy to remain in his Possession, and return the other to us; you will afterwards see him seated in due Form on the Mulsud, and cause Proclamation to be made of his Accession at the City, and Places adjacent, giving us immediate Advice thereof, that we may have him also proclaimed at *Calcutta*, the Army, and the subordinate Factories.

For your more particular Information and Government on the Subject of your Deputation, and the other Instructions we have to give you, we refer you to the inclosed Extract from our Consultation of the 14th Instant, and recommend your proper Attention to the Whole, and that you will keep us punctually and fully advised thereon.

With respect to the Business intended to be allotted between *Royduld* and *Nundemar*, we have however to

desire here, that when you have made such a Division thereof, as you think will, agreeably to our Intentions, bring their Powers nearly upon an Equality, you will advise and explain the same to us for our further Instructions, before it is carried into Execution; and in the mean Time the Collections are to be continued in the Hands they now are.

The late Nabob having thought proper to consider the Services of the Squadron under the Command of Mr. *Tinker*, by giving them a Grant for Twelve Laaks and a Half of Rupees, we promised our Assistance for procuring the punctual Payment thereof, so far as it might appear to us in his Power consistent with the Performance of the Engagements of his Treaty; we have therefore further to recommend your engaging the new Nabob to a Confirmation of the Grant; and herewith we inclose a Copy of the Terms to be left with the President at the Durbar, that he may afterwards press the Payments as they become due. We understand that a small Balance of the Donation to the Army remains still unpaid, which you will therefore also endeavour to procure the immediate Discharge of.

The Officers in Command of the Troops stationed at the City will receive the Orders of the Deputation through Mr. *Johnson*.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants.

N<sup>o</sup> 69.

Extract of Company's separate Letter to Bengal, 24 December 1765.

Par. 5. **T**HE War being begun against *Coffin Aly Khan*, we approve the Measures you took in conducting it, till the Battle of *Buxar*. But the Demand of the *Gauzeepoor* Country, the undertaking to conquer *Souja Dowla's* Country for the King, and the Treaty you have made with him, we shall give our Opinion of separately. The Demand you made of having *Coffin Aly Khan*, *Sambre*, and the Deserters, delivered up to you, was consistent with the Objects of the War, and your Success intitled you to add Reparation for the Expences of the War; but to demand the *Gauzeepoor* Country, a Frontier surrounded with warlike People, we conceive was a Measure by no Means adequate to the End proposed, and absolutely a Contradiction to our repeated Directions not to extend our Possessions. The Anxiety we feel on this Occasion is not to be compared to what we suffer at the Engagement you have entered into with the King, to conquer *Souja Dowla's* Country for him; had you pushed on after the Battle of *Buxar*, the Force of your Arms must soon have brought *Souja Dowla* to consent to your Terms; but giving away his Country rendered him desperate. In his Conference with Major *Munro*, he plainly tells you he can expect no Assistance till you have conquered the Country, and then he shall have Friends enough; and the Issue, as far as your Advices reach, is such as we imagined; you are entangled by your Connections with him, seem to doubt whether you can accept even your own Terms from *Souja Dowla*, and in the mean Time your new Ally, so far from a Support, is even to be supported in the Expences of his Household; and *Nudjee Cawn*, the only Man the King pretended to a Connection with, by your last Advices, is marching against you.

Par. 17. We are much concerned for the Death of *Jaffer Aly Cawn*, the more so for the critical Juncture at which it happened, while the Army was at so great a Distance; the acknowledging his Son seems to have

been the most prudent Measure for preserving the Tranquillity of the Country; we wish this Circumstance may have checked your Views of conquering *Souja Dowla's* Country for the King; a Scheme which seems to exclude all Possibility of Peace, which alone can make our Successes profitable; nor are we without our Apprehensions, that you may be led on to support the King in his Claims to the whole Empire; for as you have, by taking Possession of the *Gauzeepoor* Country, deviated from our repeated Orders, and departed from the Spirit of our political Views, not to enlarge our Possessions, so we know not what Bounds can stop you, when our Orders prove ineffectual.

Par. 18. The converting the temporary Assignment of Five Lacks *per* Month into a perpetual one, would be an Enlargement of our Revenue that would be flattering indeed, could we persuade ourselves it was consistent with that Permanency which is our only Object, and with the Peace of the Country; but unless we find you adopt some System which clearly marks out the Barriers of the Country Government and ours, how they may aid and support each other, and unite their Strength against all Foreign Enemies, we shall deem all those Advantages merely temporary, and this Height of Prosperity subject to a fatal Reverse, the first Check our Arms may meet with.

Par. 19. As our Servants have too readily laid hold of every Opportunity to exact Contributions, or procure Donations, from the late Nabob, we hope nothing of this Kind has happened upon the Succession of his Son, the present Nabob; however we would have you make the strictest Enquiry therein, and inform us of every Circumstance, if any such Exactions have been made, and in particular of the Names and Conduct of all and every the several Persons concerned, and oblige them to refund the Amount thereof into the Company's Cash, for our further Orders.

N<sup>o</sup> 70.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

27. **W**ITH respect to the Treaty with *Nazem-o-Dowla*, it is proper here to insert at Length the 5th Article, which runs in these Words: "I do ratify and confirm to the *English*, the Privilege granted them by their Phirmaund and several Hufbulhookums, of carrying on their Trade by Means of their own Dufftuck, free from all Duties, Taxes, or Impositions, in all Parts of the Country, excepting in the Article of Salt, on which a Duty of 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  *per Cent.* is to be levied on the *Rowana* or *Houghly* Market Price." This Fifth Article is totally repugnant to our Orders contained in our General Letter, by the *Kent* and *Lapwing*, dated the 1st of June 1764; in which we not only expressed our Abhorrence of an Article in the Treaty with *Meer Jaffer*, literally corresponding with the present 5th Article, but in positive Terms directed you, in Concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable Plan for carrying on the inland

Trade, and transmit the same to us, accompanied by such Explanations and Remarks as might enable us to give our Sentiments and Directions thereupon. We must remind you too, that in our said General Letter we expressly directed, that our Orders, in our Letter of the 8th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual End to the inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and in all other Articles produced and consumed in the Country, should remain in Force until an equitable and satisfactory Plan could be formed and adopted: As therefore there is not the least Latitude given you for concluding any Treaty whatsoever respecting this inland Trade, we must and do consider what you have done as an express Breach and Violation of our Orders, and as a determined Resolution to sacrifice the Interest of the Company and the Peace of the Country to lucrative and selfish Views.

This unaccountable Behaviour puts an End to all Confidence



Confidence in those who made this Treaty, and forces us to resolve on Measures for the Support of our Authority and the Preservation of the Company. We do therefore pronounce, that every Servant concerned in that Trade stands guilty of a Breach of his Covenants with us, and of our Orders; and in Consequence of this Resolution, we positively direct, that if that Treaty is now subsisting, you make a formal Renunciation, by some solemn Act to be entered on your Records, of all Right under the said Treaty, or otherwise, to trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco; and that you transmit this Renunciation of that Part of the Treaty, in Form, to the Nabob in the *Persian* Language. Whatever Government may be established, or whatever unforeseen Circumstances may arise, it is our Resolution to prohibit, and we do absolutely forbid, this Trade of Salt,

Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and of all Articles that are not for Export and Import, according to the Spirit of the Phirmaund, which does not in the least give any Latitude whatsoever for carrying on such an inland Trade; and moreover we shall deem every *European* concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a Breach of his Covenants, and direct that he be forthwith sent to *England*, that we may proceed against him accordingly; and every Native who shall avail himself of our Protection, to carry this Trade on without paying all the Duties due to the Government, equally with the rest of the Nabob's Subjects, shall forfeit their Protection, and be banished the Settlement; and we direct that these Resolutions be signified publicly throughout the Settlement.

N<sup>o</sup> 71.

Copy of the 58th Paragraph of the General Letter from *Bengal*, dated 12th November 1761.

WE directed Major Carnac and Mr. M<sup>r</sup> Gwire, and afterwards Colonel Coote and Mr. M<sup>r</sup> Gwire, to apply, as soon as *Shah Allum* should be acknowledged King, for Sunnuds for the Company's Possessions and Privileges in *Bengal*; viz. The Zemindary of the Purgunnahs granted by the late Nabob Jaffer Aly Cawn, the Jagheers of the Provinces of *Burdwan*, *Midnapoor*, and *Chittagong*, granted by the present Nabob, and the Confirmation of the Freedom of our Mint; we directed also Application to be made at the same Time for the Sunnuds for the Provinces of *Arcot*, in the Name of the Nabob Aly Verdi Cawn, otherwise called *Mbamud Ally Cawn*, with whom we have been so long allied:—These Requests were made by Major Carnac, who was detached by Colonel Coote to escort the King to the Borders of the Province; and the King wrote upon the Papers of Requests, that they should be granted whenever a proper Peshkash or Tribute was remitted. The Major transmitted to us Copies of the said Papers of Requests, with the King's Supercription; and advised us at the same Time, that the King had offered to confer on the Company the Duanees of *Bengal*, on Condition of our being answerable for the Royal Revenues; but as we are sensible that our accepting of this Post would cause Jealousy and ill Will between us and the Nabob, we thought it more prudent to decline it; all which you will observe more fully in our Consultation of the 4th July.

Copy of 55th Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated 9th March 1763.

Your Refusal of the Duanees of *Bengal*, offered by

the King, was certainly right; and we are well satisfied with the just and prudent Reasons you give for declining that Offer: However, it seems something extraordinary to us, that at the Time the King makes this Advance, he should return the Applications made to him for the Sunnuds, to confirm our Privileges and Possessions in *Bengal*, granted by the late and present Nabob, in so loose and unsatisfactory a Manner, and even to require a Pishah or Present before he passes the Order in due Form. The great Services we had rendered his Majesty, and the generous Treatment he met with from us, as well as from our Ally the Nabob, during his Stay at *Patna*, surely claimed a more distinguished Treatment, and at least a full Grant of our Request, without such an expensive Demand annexed; the Time and Manner of the Refusal seem likewise very extraordinary; your Applications being returned at the very Juncture Major Carnac was escorting him to the *Caramassah*, or Borders of the Province; a Service which must then be fresh in the King's Memory; and therefore we think there is Reason to apprehend the King is not so cordially attached to us as we might have expected: However, if you judge the obtaining such Sunnuds to be absolutely necessary, you have, we doubt not, continued your Application to have them perfected. It was a prudent Consideration in you, to add to your Applications on this Subject our Ally, *Aly Verdi Cawn*, otherwise called *Mbamud Ally Cawn*, as Nabob of *Arcot*, which we suppose you have or will continue to do, when you think proper to move again in this Affair; and should the King succeed in his Pretensions to the Throne, the sooner the Grants are obtained, the less, we apprehend, will be the Expence attending it.

N<sup>o</sup> 72.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of *England* trading to the *East Indies*.

Honourable Sirs,

1. THIS Ship, the *Admiral Stevens*, having been purchased to proceed to you as a Packet, in consequence of a Recommendation from the Select

Committee, we embrace the Opportunity of transmitting you by her some general necessary Informations, since our last Address of the 11th of *March*, by the *Bute*.

2. You were then advised of the Arrival of the *Lord Anson*, but that we had not as yet received any Accounts, either of the remaining Transport, the *Prince of Wales*, or of the *Kent*; the former imported with us at last

last on the 17th of April, having, for the Purpose of refreshing her Recruits put in at *St. Salvador*, on the Coast of *Brazil*, and the *Cape of Good Hope*. This indeed considerably retarded her, but the good Consequences thereof were happily experienced by the People, almost all of them having been landed here in perfect Health: The *Kent* stopped also at *Rio Janeiro*, and the latter Place; and having, at Lord *Clive's* particular Desire, put in afterwards at *Fort St. George* for a few Days, and landed, at the Request of the President and Council, the Recruits on Board, about 50 in Number, arrived with us on the 3d of May, when his Lordship, being accompanied to Town by a proper Deputation, took Charge of the Government from Mr. *Spencer*: A Letter of Thanks was at the same Time addressed to this Gentleman, for the Regard he had shewn to the Company's Affairs, in continuing in the mean Time to hold the Charge; and at the Return now of the proper Season he will proceed immediately to his Station at *Bombay*: Messieurs *Sumner* and *Sykes* having also arrived, took their Seats at the Board, according to their Appearances.

3. We have only yet this Season had the Honour to receive your Commands of the 21st of November last by the *Tilbury*, which Ship imported at *Fort St. George* the 15th of July: The *Horrendon* and *Royal Captain* arrived there also the 23d and 24th of June; and, we since learn, proceeded on their Destination for *China* the 19th of July, the *Tilbury* being to follow them about the Beginning of this Month: We have not received any Intelligence of your other expected Ships on this Side, but we are apprised from *Fort Marlboro'*, that the *Thames* and *Grosvener* imported with them on the 28th of June and 4th of July.

4. We have further the Pleasure to acquaint you with the safe Arrival of the *Earl of Middlesex* at *Fort St. George*, the 27th of May, from *Fort Marlboro'* and *Batavia*, having been under a Necessity of returning to the last Port, after an unsuccessful Attempt to gain her Passage against the northerly Moonsoon; and as this Ship was now on high Demorage, the Gentlemen thought it would be for the Interest of the Company to return her to *Europe*, and resolved to keep her accordingly for their first Dispatches. We have been informed from *Fort Marlboro'* of her having with them from the *French Islands* the Remainder of the Prisoners of War, who were left there, and chose to return.

5. The *Caernarvon* failed from *Fort St. George* the 28th of March, and the *Asia* having been dispatched from *Bombay* on the 13th of April, to call on the Coast for Timbers and Plank there provided for us, arrived here the 3d of June; we were at the same Time advised that the *Calcutta* and *London* were under Dispatch to *Europe* from the Presidency, and of the Departure of the *York* and *Talbot* from *Telliccherry* for *Canton*, on the 30th of April: From *Fort St. George* we learn, that the *Duke of Gloucester*, *Duke of Richmond*, and *Earl of Elgin*, bound likewise for that Place, were at *Batavia* by the last Advices they received from thence, dated the 27th of April: The *Argo* Frigate, with the Conignment of Treasure to the Supra Cargoes, having failed by the *Pitt's* Passage on the 29th of January; and from these Gentlemen we are informed, under Date the 5th of March, of the Arrival with them of the *Prince's Augusta* on the 12th of January, and that she was then under Dispatch to you, together with the *Earl of Lincoln*.

6. Having taken immediately under Consideration your Advices, with those we had before received from the Gentlemen at *Fort St. George* and *Bombay*, and from *Canton*, with respect to the Ships which would be on Hand this Season, and attending to the State of our Investment, and other necessary Circumstances, we thereupon formed a Disposition of them, which is entered, for the Sake of Reference, after our Proceedings; and from which you will please to observe, that besides this Packet, carrying a Cargo chiefly of fine Goods,

and the *Earl of Middlesex* under Dispatch from *Fort St. George*, we expect to provide for Five from this Side; viz. the *Pacific*, *Grenville*, *Ponlorne*, *Falmouth*, and *Speke*; of these the former will proceed to that Presidency, in the Month of December, with a Supply of Salt Petre, which they have requested may not be less than 200 or 250 Tons, as the *Middlesex* would take off most of what they had on Hand, to be returned from thence Home in February: The Three following we shall certainly return direct from hence fully laden; and we hope our Investment will enable us to send you the remaining one also; but if this should not be the Case, we propose employing her to carry the annual Supplies from hence to *Fort St. George* for *Fort Marlboro'*, and then proceed on to *China*, to be returned to you at the Season of 1766-7.

7. The great Assistance which the Gentlemen at *Bombay* received from us last Season, in the Article of Salt Petre, and what we mean to supply them with this, at least 25,000 Maunds, will, we expect, enable them to return Home the Four Ships consigned to their Side, as well as the *Kent* of last Year, which we shall immediately send round to them; her late Arrival having prevented her proceeding last Season: We also intend returning thither the *Asia*, leaving to that Presidency her further Disposal, either by Dispatch to *Europe*, or providing her with a Stock, and sending her to be returned from thence in the following Season.

8. This Plan however, we must observe, is made upon a Supposition, that the *Falmouth* comes out on the same Terms and Footing as the rest of the Ships, in which Case we conclude it may stand good; but if, on the contrary, she is an old Vessel for Sale in *India*, we can forward Home the Whole of our Investment by encreasing the Bale Cargoes of the other Three from One Thousand or Twelve hundred Bales to Fourteen or Fifteen hundred; and if any Accident should happen to either of these, we shall desire the Dispatch of the *Asia* till the Beginning of November, when we hope to be upon a Certainty, and shall determine accordingly.

9. The Consignments to the Supra Cargoes at *Canton*, for the Service of this Season, are so very considerable, including the Remittance of Ten Lacks of Rupees made to them by the *Argo*, and what the Gentlemen at *Fort St. George* advise us they have sent them by the *Tilbury*, *Horrendon*, and *Royal Captain*, being Pagodas 357,237. 6. 66, that they will be able to return Home all their Ships, and the Three of last Year before-mentioned, to be at *Batavia*, as well as the *York* and *Talbot* from the *Malabar* Coast, with Cargoes to the full stipulated Amount in your present Commands, of Lft. 30,000 for each, and upon a Computation from their Advices, have afterwards remaining in their Hands a large Balance, near Lft. 120,000, in order to begin their Investment for the following Year.

10. Having thus considered the Subject, we gave immediately the necessary Advice to the Gentlemen at *Fort St. George* and *Bombay*.

11. On the Arrival of the *Kent* the former Presidency borrowed from Mr. *Sumner*, to assist in making up their Consignments to the Supra Cargoes, the Quantity of 38,000 Ounces of Spanish Silver, to be repaid him here, at the Valuation in our Mint, making A.Rs. 99,437. 2. 9. We afterwards, upon their Representation, that the Gentlemen at *Bombay* depended upon them to complete the Stock for the *Talbot* and *York*, which was deficient near Five Lack of Rupees, offered to assist them therein, by Drafts, as far as Four Lack: And if the *Asia* should, as we at present intend, proceed to *Bombay*, we shall, in Case of her after unavoidable Destination to *Canton*, make further Provision for that Branch of your Commerce, by a Remittance of Two or Three Lacks.—We must here add, that we pay due Attention to your fresh Instructions and Commands respecting it, and shall, on all Occasions, afford it every Assistance in our Power.

12. Reckoning upon the *Aha's* proceeding to *Bombay* accordingly, she is now receiving 400 Tons, or 12000 Maunds, of the proposed Supply of Salt Petre; and we have also shipped on the *Kori* 100 Tons, or 3000 Maunds; we have likewise supplied that Presidency with Money, since our last Advices, to the Amount of above Five Lack of Rupees, and shall continue honouring such further Drafts as they may make on us, either by immediate Payment, or Interest Bonds, which they advise they shall leave to our Option, on the Terms on which they grant them.

13. The *Bute* did not receive her Dispatches from *Ingles* till the 25th of *March*, owing to very tempestuous Weather, and other Difficulties and Impediments in receiving on Board the latter Part of her Cargo: After all, 280 Bales and Chests were returned to Town, besides 79 Bales, which we are sorry to mention were lost in one of the Sloops, as she was waiting to deliver them, making together Tons 64. 10. These Captain *Maitland* afterwards represented to us he was unable to take in, on Account of the Detachment of Troops we had put on board the Ship, and the large Quantity of Baggage they had carried with them, for which we had refused to make him any Allowance of Tonnage; but we beg Leave to refer you, for a full Relation of all the Circumstances, to his Letters, and the Master Attendant's and Export Warehouse Keeper's Reports, entered on our Consultations of the 25th of *March*, and 1st and 4th of *April*; upon the last of which you will also particularly observe a Protest and Counter Protest on the Occasion from the Master Attendant, and Captain *Maitland*, together with our Remarks and Sentiments; and we shall here only add further, that the returned Bales and Chests are now sent you by the *Admiral Stevens*, marked as we directed with the Letter B, to denote, in Distinction from the rest of the Cargo, their having been intended for the *Bute*, as also the Warehouse Keeper's Account of them, and of the lost Bales referred to in his Reports.

14. We mentioned to you, in our last Address from the secret Department, the Arrival of Mr. *Law*, the French Commissary, on the Coast; and we are now to inform you, that having received the Restitutions to be there made to that Nation, he proceeded to *Bengal*, and on the 15th of *June* was put in Possession of *Chandernagore* by Mr. *George Van Bittari*, whom we appointed on this Occasion the Commissary for his *Britannic Majesty*; having afterwards advised us of the Nomination of his Deputies for receiving the subordinate Settlements at *Sydabad*, *Dacca*, *Jugdea*, and *Balasore*, the necessary Appointments were also made on our Part, and the two first Places have been accordingly restored. — We have yet heard nothing concerning *Jugdea*; and with respect to the *Balasore* Factory, some Objections have occurred, upon its not being in the Condition required by the Terms of the Treaty, which has prevented its being yet made over: Mr. *Law* has, however, now given his Orders for its being received in its present State, leaving those Circumstances to be adjusted between us, upon further Accounts from our respective Commissaries; he has further set forth the Title of the French Company to Two Spots of Ground at *Singhia* and *Chuprah*, near *Paina*, which we have advised him should in like Manner be restored, upon his Appointment of a Person to receive them. We transmit you in the Packet, for your Information, Copies of the Acts of Restitution of *Chandernagore*, those for the other Places being the same, only with the necessary Alteration of Terms.

15. Upon this Occasion we received a Representation from Mr. *Law*, touching the Inconveniences and Difficulties the French Company and their Agents would be exposed to from our direct Adherence to the Terms of the Treaty; which restrict them from erecting Fortifi-

cations, or entertaining any Troops in these Provinces, accompanied by the Copy of an Answer on the Subject, the Original whereof he had before communicated to Lord *Clive*, which the Minister for the India Affairs had, on his Departure from *France*, received from the Secretary of State; he therefore expressed his Hope, that we would be induced to allow them a small Number of armed Europeans and *Sapeys*, with a few Pieces of Cannon, and a proper Lodgement, to which they might retire in Case of any Surprise from the Country People; assuring us particularly, that he meant not to elude in the least, by this Application, the Effect of the Conditions of the Treaty.

16. Having properly considered the same, we agreed, with a Reserve to ourselves of the Right of withdrawing the Terms, whenever we might have Reason for apprehending an improper Use of them, to permit One Officer and Twenty European Infantry, with One hundred *Sapeys*, to be entertained at *Chandernagore*, and Fifty of the latter at each of the Subordinates; also to allow them a Wall at *Chandernagore*, such as they formerly had at *Cosimbuzar*, and Twenty Pieces of Cannon, not of a heavier Weight than Six Pounders, for the Purpose of Salutes on the usual Occasions; which would at the same Time fully answer the End of imposing a proper Respect on the Country People: We further agreed to allow them Five Artillery Men, for working these Guns: And having communicated our Determination to Mr. *Law*, we received his Thanks in the Name of the Nation for the same; and a further Assurance that no improper Use would be made of any Indulgence we might grant them.

17. Having also received an Application from him, soliciting a Supply of Eight or Nine thousand Maunds of Salt Petre, on the same Terms as the *Dutch*, to assist in completing their Cargoes from hence, and their other Settlements; and finding by Advices from *Paina*, that our Investment this Season would enable us, without any Inconvenience, to comply therewith, we agreed to spare them accordingly the last mentioned Quantity, and gave Orders for their being furnished with Seven thousand Maunds immediately, and the remaining Two thousand in the Month of *December*; remarking, however, to Mr. *Law*, at the same Time, that no Right to any Part of this Branch of Commerce was from hence to be established, though we should with equal Readiness assist the Company when it could be done with the same Convenience.

18. Immediately upon the Arrival of Lord *Clive* we proceeded to fix the Appointments of the Field Officers, agreeable to the Establishment in your Commands of the 1st of *June* 1764, and General *Carnac* and Colonel *Smith* were in Consequence stationed to the 1st and 2d Battalions.

19. The Command of the 3d being vacant by the Death of Major *Knox*, it would in Course have devolved to Sir *Robert Fletcher*; but Lord *Clive* informing the Board, that although Sir *Robert Barker* was only mentioned in the Letter as Commandant of the Artillery, he knew, from what had passed between him and some of the Gentlemen of the Direction, respecting the Appointments, that it was their Intention he should have the Choice of succeeding to one of the Battalions, in Case of a Vacancy; and being at this Time desirous of having the 3d, it was agreed to appoint him thereto accordingly.

20. Sir *Robert Fletcher* became in Consequence Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st Battalion; and it was also agreed to promote Major *Peach* to the 2d, till the Point of Priority in Rank between him and Major *Champion* was determined by your Answer to the Applications made to you, respecting that Gentleman and Sir *Robert Fletcher*.

21. Proceeding then to the 3d Appointment of Lieutenant Colonel, Lord *Clive* further informed the Board,

that on his Arrival at the *Cape* he found there on his Passage to *Europe*, Major *Charles Chapman*, of his Majesty's 79th Regiment, and that Messrs. *Sumner* and *Sykes*, with Colonels *Smith* and *Barker*, represented to him, that as the Number of Field Officers was not complete according to the Establishment, an Opportunity offered, in their Opinion, of doing the Company great Service, by introducing that Gentleman as one, having on Account of his particular Merit been solicited by the President and Council to remain at *Fort Saint George* in the Command of their Troops under General *Laurence*; which although he had declined, he was willing to come to *Bengal* with his Lordship, provided he had Rank next after Major *Peach*.—That he joined in Sentiment with those Gentlemen, and brought the Major here accordingly under such a Promise; and his Lordship therefore proposed he should have this Appointment, not doubting in the least your Confirmation thereof.

22. Some Debate passed at the Board on this Occasion; upon which his Lordship informed them, that in Virtue of the Power vested in him, for which he referred to the 36th Paragraph of the General Letter, we should certainly grant the Commission in Question, but would wish to have their Concurrence, and desired the Sentiments of the several Members might be collected, which you will find recorded accordingly on the Proceedings; and Major *Chapman* was appointed the 3d Lieutenant Colonel.

23. Majors *Champion* and *Stibbert*, and Captain *Hugh Grant*, were afterwards appointed the Majors of the Three Battalions; and in Consideration of the long and faithful Services of Captain *Christian Fyber*, and as the former Objection to promoting him was now removed by the Appointment of so many Officers of superior Rank, a Major's Brevet was also granted to him.

24. Before Colonel *Smith* proceeded to join the Army we received a Representation from him, touching his Appointments at this Presidency; setting forth, That he was positively assured he was to succeed to all the fame, both Civil and Military, which General *Carnac* now holds in the Service; and expressing therefore his Surprise at finding himself, on his Arrival, precluded from the former, by the 19th Paragraph of your Letter; which expressly says, that after the Death or Departure of the General, no Officer shall have a constant Seat at the Board without your Leave, but only when Military Affairs are under Consideration; we beg Leave to refer you to the Representation itself, of which a Copy is transmitted in the Packet, and we request your Orders in Answer; taking at the same Time Liberty to offer it as our Opinion to you, that the Commanding Officer of the Troops should upon all Occasions have a Seat at the Board.

25. The Select Committee, agreeably to your Appointment, was also formed directly upon the *Kent's* Arrival; their Powers were therefore communicated to our Subordinate Factories, and to the Presidencies of *Fort Saint George* and *Bombay*, and the necessary Directions given in Consequence to the former, to obey all Orders which they might receive from them; and the Committee have from Time to Time laid before the Board such of their Proceedings as they judge advisable and proper.

26. The Covenants which you were pleased to send out, regarding the Acceptance of Presents from the Country Government, not having been at this Time subscribed to, this was the Subject of their First Consideration; and they thereupon communicated to the Board their Opinion that the same should be immediately executed in the Form prescribed by the Members of the Council, and the other Servants of the Company, which was conformed to accordingly by the Members present; and the Secretary was ordered to prepare and transmit Sets for the several other Gentlemen, both in the Civil and Military Service: Those to the former have been all returned duly executed, as well as the greatest Part

of the latter; but the Distance the Army has been from us, and the Officers being variously dispersed, has occasioned some Trouble and Delay in getting these completed, and we wait the Remainder of them, to forward to you the Whole together.

27. The next Proceedings, which the Committee communicated to the Council, contained their Resolution for enforcing immediately the Board's Orders, with respect to the Return of the *European* Agents from up the Country, granting them a further Indulgence of Two Months, to the 1st of *August*, which was afterwards prolonged to the 21st of *October*: Public Notice was accordingly given of this Resolution; in consequence whereof, we understand many are arrived in *Calcutta*, and we shall take care that the rest return also in due Time.

28. The subsequent Proceedings, for some Time, were upon Enquiry into the Circumstances of some Sums which had been received from the present Nabob, and others, by the Gentlemen who composed the Deputation for the Execution of the Treaty with his Excellency, on the Decease of his Father, viz. Messrs. *Johnstone*, Senior, *Middleton*, and *Lycester*; as also by the other Members at the Presidency, Messrs. *Spencer*, *Playdell*, *Burdett*, and *Gray*, upon the same Occasion. We beg Leave to refer you to the Proceedings themselves on this Subject, and to the several Minutes and Defences entered thereupon on the Registers of Council and of the Committee, and request your Sentiments and Determination on the Whole.—We have only here to notice to you in particular, that Mr. *Johnstone* has in Consequence, and for other Reasons set forth in his Minute, resigned your Service, and proceeds Home by this Opportunity.

29. At our Consultation of the 24th of *June*, Lord *Clive* entered a Representation and Complaint against Mr. *Burdett*, for having in his Office of *Zemindar* confined and detained, after Application for his Release, a *Ghaut-Manjee*, or Overseer of Boats, employed by his Lordship on the Occasion of an intended Expedition up the Country, to take upon him the Command of the Army, and settle Affairs with the Powers in those Parts: Mr. *Burdett* not being present at this Meeting, an Order was immediately issued to him for the Man's Enlargement: And his Answer to the same having been received, assigning the Reasons for his Proceedings, which did not appear sufficient, and conceived in Terms deemed disrespectful to the Board, they determined that he should make a proper Acknowledgement both to Lord *Clive* and themselves. His Lordship at the same Time took Leave of the Board, to proceed on the Business before intimated.

30. Mr. *Burdett* complied afterwards with this Determination; and his Lordship having desired to be acquainted therewith, it was accordingly communicated to him; but Mr. *Burdett* entered a Minute on the Style of his Letter, in Consequence whereof further Proceedings occurred; and these being likewise transmitted to his Lordship, we received an Answer from him, confirming the Opinion he had before given of that Gentleman's Conduct, in Terms which determined Mr. *Burdett*, having before intimated his Intention of returning this Season to *Europe*, to sit no longer at the Board, and he also resigned your Service accordingly.

31. Lord *Clive* has since delivered in a Minute, setting forth, that he cannot accuse himself of having given any Cause for the Resentment expressed by Mr. *Burdett*, and his Opinion concerning his Representation; referring to a Letter from *Raja Doolabram* to Mr. *Sumner*, when President, in respect to a Note of Hand for a Sum of Money, which he represented he had given to Mr. *Burdett*, upon the Nabob's Accession to the Government, under the Promise of his Endeavours to procure him a Share in the Administration, which he had not fulfilled, and therefore soliciting Mr. *Sumner's* Assistance for the Recovery thereof; of this Minute and Letter Mr. *Burdett* has had a Copy, and we expect his Answer.

32. Lord Clive having arrived in Town, and resumed his Seat at the Board, the 9th Instant, laid before them an Extract from the Proceedings of the Select Committee held the 7th upon his Return, accompanying the Copy of a Treaty of Peace concluded by him and General Carnac, on the Part of the honourable Company and the Nabob, with *Sujab Doulah*, together with the Translation of a Grant and Sannuds obtained from the King for the Dewanny of these Provinces, and of an Agreement subscribed to in Consequence by the Nabob, through the Means of his Lordship and Mr. Sykes; as also Translations of other Sannuds from the King, confirming to the Company their former Possessions, and securing to them the Reversion of Lord Clive's Jaghire; for his Lordship had before, on his Way up, obtained the Nabob's Sannud in Duplicate, one of them to be forwarded to you if we judged it proper, which is accordingly transmitted in the Packet, with an attested Copy of the Translation; we also send you like Copies of the several Papers above-mentioned, to which we beg Leave to refer you, and to offer you at the same Time our hearty Congratulations on this Event of the Return of Peace, which we hoped, and have now all Reason to expect, from our established Influence and Power, will remain in future uninterrupted; the same was proclaimed here in proper Form on the 12th, and ordered to be also published at the Subordinates.

33. At the Consultation of the 9th of June, Mr. Sykes entered a Minute, informing the Board that the Select Committee had ordered him to proceed to *Murshidabad*, on Affairs of Importance, which would be communicated to them when the Proceedings were drawn up, and that he should set out accordingly without Loss of Time; Messrs. *Lycester* and *Gray* dissented upon this Occasion, not being able to judge of the Object of Mr. Sykes's Commission, or the Necessity of his Appointment, and as Mr. *Middleton*, a Member of the Board, was already stationed Resident at the Durbar, to transact whatever Points of Business might occur with the Country Government, had acted in that Capacity to the entire Satisfaction of the Council, and could not be superseded without a Reflection on his Ability to conduct such Business. The Proceedings were afterwards laid before the Board, when those Gentlemen confirmed their Dissent, esteeming Mr. *Middleton* still the proper Person to transact the Business entrusted to Mr. Sykes; and upon Mr. *Middleton*'s receiving Information from the Select Committee of this Appointment, he addressed the Board, as appears in Consultation the 18th of the same Month; setting forth, how much it must lessen the Weight and Influence which it was absolutely necessary he should maintain in his Station, and that he could not with any Credit to himself remain in it longer, more especially as Lord Clive told him, on his Way, that it was intended to remove him shortly, and place Mr. Sykes in his room; and soliciting, in Consequence, the Chiefship of *Patna*, which became vacant a few Days before, by the sudden Death of Mr. *Billers*; to this he was accordingly appointed, and ordered by the Majority to proceed immediately, delivering over to the Chief at *Cossimbazar*, such Business as he has been intrusted with from the Board. Mr. *Sumner* being the only Member of the Committee then present, minuted at the same Time a Declaration on their Part, that no Reflection whatsoever on Mr. *Middleton*, nor Derogation from his necessary Weight and Influence as public Resident, was intended by them; and produced the Copy of the Letter wrote him on the Occasion; setting forth the Impropriety of charging any other than a Member of the Committee with the Management of Business which had not been disclosed to the Council, as an Argument for his Satisfaction. Mr. Sykes having proceeded conformably to his Deputation, returned to the Presidency with Lord Clive.

34. Mr. *Verelst*, upon being called to *Calcutta*, to take his Seat in the Committee, to resign the Chiefship of *Chittagong* Factory, in which Mr. *Playdell* succeeded

him; and upon the Resignation of Mr. *Johnstone*, he was appointed by the Committee to the Charge of Supervisor of the *Burdwan* Revenues.

35. At the Consultation of the 22d of July, a Motion was made by Mr. *Burdett* for filling up the Vacancies in Council, from Mr. *Johnstone*'s late Resignation, and the Death of Mr. *Billers*, agreeably to your last Appointment and Orders; upon which Mr. *Sumner* informed him, that the Committee had already taken the Subject of those Orders under their Consideration, and should determine on them at their first Meeting, upon the Return of the absent Members to the Presidency, and therefore desired that the Filling up the Vacancies might still then be postponed. The Majority of the Board entering their Opinions, that the Matter should not be deferred, and proposing therefore to call to the Board the Two next Gentlemen on the List, Mr. *Sumner* dissented thereto in his own and the Name of the Committee, reserving to them a Revival of the Measure. But the Majority confirming their Opinions, Messrs. *Francis Charlton* and *Thomas French* were in consequence ordered from *Dacca*, to take their Seats.

36. Upon the assembling again of the Committee, Mr. *Sumner* related to them accordingly what had passed at the Board, and they recorded their Sentiments thereon; offering at the same Time their Reasons for not enlarging the Number of the Council; which latter were, First, That the Collection of the *Burdwan* Revenues should no longer be managed by a Chief and Council, but as proposed in a Representation to them from Mr. *Verelst*, at the same Time communicated to the Board, by a junior Servant, residing always on the Spot, and a Supervisor, who, if a Member of the Board, might still retain his Seat as such, his Charge would only require an occasional Attendance. Secondly, with respect to the *Midnapore* Province, that it was not of sufficient Consequence to require the Direction of a Member of the Council, and might be as well conducted by a junior Servant. And, Thirdly, Their having under their Consideration the Recalling the Factory at *Banaras*, in Consequence of the Treaty concluded with *Sujab Doulah*. Upon which different Circumstances, they recommended to the Board to re-consider the Appointments of Messrs. *Charlton* and *French*. We beg Leave to refer you to the Proceedings of the Committee for those Sentiments, and a particular Explanation of their Reasons for the proposed Charges respecting *Burdwan* and *Midnapore*, as also the Opinions of the several Members of the Board thereon; and shall here only add, that the Majority being of Opinion the first Alteration should take place, and the Members of the Board joining with the Committee as to the latter, the Appointments of the new Members were in consequence set aside, and Orders given to the Factory at *Dacca* accordingly. Mr. *Lycester*, however, entered a Minute, confirming the Opinion against a Reduction in the Number of the Council, which we further refer you to.

37. We received a Letter from Lord Clive, during his Absence at *Banaras*, representing his Opinion of your Title to a Moiety of the Money obtained there by our Army, in consequence of the Deed of Gift from the King to the Company, of such Proportion of all Plunder, &c. which should be taken in *India* by his Forces on Land, and their Orders, putting their own Military on the same Footing, and referring to them the other Moiety. He, at the same Time, pointed out, as an Argument, the Stipulation in Favour of the Company, of one Half of what should be taken at *Manilla*, esteeming it a similar Case with the one in Question, and referred the Subject to the Consideration of the Board.

38. It appearing, on Reference to the Registers of Council before his Lordship's Arrival, that the Board considered the said Money as a voluntary Gift from the Merchants, rather than a Ransom for the Town obtained by military Force, and that for the Reasons assigned they thought proper to consent to the Army's receiving

it, without referring any Claim to the Company; the other Members did not think, this being the Case, that a Demand on them for a Share of the Money could now, with any Propriety, be made; and they communicated these their Sentiments accordingly, in Answer to his Lordship; transmitting, for his particular Information, Extracts of those Registers; viz.

Of the Letters to the Commanding Officers of the 6th of November and 6th of December last. And,

Of the Consultation of the 3d of January, upon an Application received from the Officers and Men of the 96th Regiment, and his Majesty's Marines.

To which we beg Leave to refer you upon the Occasion.

39. Upon his Lordship's Return to the Presidency, he informed the Board, that, while he was with the Army, he had formed it upon the Establishment and Plan laid down in your Commands of the First of June 1765; and proposed, for the better regulating their Pay in future, and the Prevention of any Abuses, that there should be separate Paymasters, with Deputies, and a Commissary to each Brigade.

The Board agreed with him entirely in the Propriety of those Appointments, and the Paymasters were accordingly nominated, and the other Officers remaining to be fixed at a future Meeting.

40. The Select Committee having taken under Consideration your Orders, touching the Indian Trade in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, they communicated to the Board in their next Proceedings a Set of Regulations formed thereupon, as the Ground-work of a Plan for carrying it on in future; we beg Leave to refer you to the Proceedings themselves for your particular Information of this Plan; and have here to inform you, that Messrs. *Sumner, Vrevelt, Leycester, and Gray*, were in Consequence constituted the Committee for receiving Charge thereof, and managing it on Behalf of the Body of Proprietors, with Authority to correspond with the subordinate Factories, and to pursue all such Measures as might, conformably thereto, appear to them eligible and proper; and that the necessary Advice and Orders were given accordingly to the Subordinates, and Publication made, prohibiting all Persons depending on the Country's Government from entering into any new Engagements in those Articles, unless as Contractors with the Committee, for the Purchase or Sale of them. We have also to note to you, that Messrs. *Leycester and Gray* dissented to the Authority the Select Committee had taken upon themselves on this Occasion, esteeming it in no wise delegated to them by the Terms and Intention of their Appointment; and that the Subject should have been considered and determined on in Council.

41. The Committee of Trade having entered upon the Prosecution of the Plan, we have received from them a Representation for having the Society secured against any Innovations in the Course of their present Engagements, and soliciting from us such a Deed as we may think sufficient to insure to them the exclusive Right to the Trade till these Engagements are concluded, the same to be renewed every Season, so long as it shall be agreeable to you that this Plan should subsist; we could not but agree with them entirely in the Propriety of this Measure, and have given Directions for drawing accordingly such a Writing as may be thought sufficient to secure the Proprietors the Right in Question, and we now request your Permission to renew the same for the future Concerns, if the Plan meets with your Approbation.

42. Commodore *Tinker* having received from the late Nabob, *Meer Jaffer*, a Grant of 12,50,000 Rupees, as a Donation to himself and the Squadron under his Command, for their Services in the War against *Meer Cossim*, he presented to the Board, on his Departure, a Translation of the same; and requested their Assistance in procuring regular Payments, conformably to the Terms, to which the Board replied, expressing their Satisfaction

at the Nabob's having thought proper to confide the Services of the Squadron, and assuring Mr. *Tinker*, that, so far as might appear to them in his Power, consistently with the Performance of the Engagements of his Treaty, the Commodore might depend on their Compliance with his Application. Two of the Periods of Payment having expired, and no Part been yet received, the Agents have now addressed us, including the Translation of a Letter from the present Nabob, with a Confirmation of his Father's Grant, and soliciting our Interposition for procuring them the Amount due; representing, with a View of adding Weight to their Application, that many of the Officers and Men of the Squadron having contracted Debts during their Abode in *Calcutta*, their Drafts on the Donation had, upon the Strength of the Board's Promise, been accepted in Discharge thereof, by Merchants of the Place, whose private Fortunes have already suffered, and must suffer still more by any further Delay of Payment.

43. The Representation having been considered and debated on, the Majority of the Board were of Opinion, that, in consequence of our Acquisition of the Duanny of these Provinces, and the Agreement thereupon made with the Nabob, by which, after the Stipulations for the King and his Excellency, the remaining Part of the Revenues devolves to the Company, they could not of themselves determine upon the Subject, but that it should be referred to your Decision; and the Circumstances being accordingly thus stated to you, we wait your Answer and Orders thereon.

44. The Ships *Lord Anson* and *Prince of Wales* having been reported clear of their Consignment, on the 29th of April and 24th of June, they were immediately dismissed your Service, and their Journals and other Books of their Voyage required, conformably to your Orders, to be returned to you; the same are transmitted you by this Opportunity; and we have discharged the Balances of Freight remaining to be paid the Owners in *India*, as per their respective Accounts received in the Packets: We have also reimbursed the Commanders for sundry Necessaries provided in the Course of their Passages, for the Use of the Recruits whom they brought out; viz. to the former C<sup>t</sup> 1,989. 5. 7, and to the latter C<sup>t</sup> 9,044. 6. 0, both Accounts being properly vouched and certified.

45. The *Solebay*, One of the Two Ships taken up last Year for furnishing your Presidency of *Fort Marlboro'* with Slaves from *Madagascar*, having concluded her Voyage, arrived with us on the 22d ult. and we received by her a Packet from the President and Council, under a general Address to either of the Three Settlements, including several Papers respecting her, in consequence of a Demand on the Commander upon Account of the Owners, for the Sum of £. 2,500 advanced to them in *England*, which he refused Payment of. These Papers they therefore transmitted, pointing out particularly to the Observation of those who might receive them, that your Instructions to them were very explicit, although the Charter-Party appeared rather defective in the Wording; that, if it appeared eligible, an Attempt might be made to recover the Money by Course of Law. We perused and examined the different Papers, but not chusing to proceed upon our own Judgement upon a Case of this Nature, we referred them to the attentive Consideration of an Attorney in the Mayor's Court, Mr. *Richard Whittall*, who, we understood, was most capable and versed in his Profession, requiring his Sentiments at full, whether or not there was sufficient Ground on which to found a Prosecution here on the Occasion; and having received an Answer from him, stating his Opinion in the Affirmative, we have directed him to repeat the Demand in due Form, and, upon a Refusal still of Payment, to commence an Action against the Owners accordingly.

46. We send you further the general Books of the Presidency, with their Subsidiaries, to April 1764, and hope,

hope, from the Sub-Accountant's Report, to forward to you the subsequent Set in the Court of this Season, having, upon his Application some Time ago, wrote in very urgent Terms on this Subject to the Subordinates. The entire Loss of their Books and Accounts, at least some of them, in the late Troubles, have unavoidably occasioned great Delay in bringing them up.

47. We are to advise you of the Decease of Capt. Alexander Scott, your Master-Attendant, on the 12th ult. and of Capt. Page Kell's Succession to the Charge of that Office, agreeably to your Nomination. On this Occasion we received a Petition from the Deputy, Mr. Richard Deane, representing his long Services to the Company, in the different Gradations of the Marine, which he hoped had fully qualified him for the Appointment, and soliciting it. Accordingly, he was advised, in Answer, that Capt. Kell had obtained it in pursuance of your Orders; with an Assurance, however, that we had a just Sense of his Services, and should take Care to make proper mention of him to you, and we beg Leave therefore to recommend him to your Notice.

48. Mr. Robert Hunter, whom you have this Season been pleased to appoint a Factor on the *Fort Marlborough* Establishment, having some Months before come over to this Presidency, had, on Account of his particular Merit and Abilities in the Profession, been entertained as one of our principal Surgeons; on being therefore advised of your Appointment, he delivered in a Letter to us, representing, that it was obtained entirely without his Knowledge and Intention, while he was detained on the *French Islands*, and Six Years after his first Application; and having then quitted the Place, with Leave from the President and Council, and upon his Admission into the Service here, had, from a Dependence upon continuing in it, entered into Connections and Concerns with others, whose Interest must suffer, and Ruin attend his own by a speedy Removal: He, for these Reasons, solicited our Permission to relinquish that Appointment, and be continued in his Station here; expressing, at the same Time, his just Sense of the Favour and Honour thereby conferred on him, for which he returned you his grateful Thanks, and his Hope, that, in Consideration of his Misfortunes and long Services, you would not be displeased with this Proceeding; in this Representation, and the Character before given of him, we could not but very readily acquiesce in his Desire; and, as we are extremely solicitous of his Continuance with us, we hope for, and earnestly entreat, his Confirmation here accordingly.

49. We further beg Leave to recommend to you, for an Appointment on your List of Civil Servants, Mr. Sutton Banks, a Gentleman who has for a long while resided in the Place as a private Merchant, much esteemed, and is entirely deserving the Favour we solicit for him.

50. Captain George Buryball, of the Corps of Engineers, having been accused by Captain Martin, his inferior Officer, of Disobedience of Orders, he, in Consequence of the Opinion of a Court of Enquiry, underwent a Trial by a Court Martial, appointed and approved by Major Munro, before his Departure; at which having been found guilty of the Charge, he was cashiered the Company's Service by the Sentence of the Court, and he proceeds Home, with his Family, by this Opportunity; Major Munro carried with him the Proceedings of the Court Martial.

51. You will find the Reasons of the Select Committee, in which the Board acquiesced, for the Purchase of the *Admiral Stevens* on the Occasion of this Dispatch, and not employing the *Lapwing*, which still remained upon our Hands, recorded on the Committee Proceedings of the 21st of June, and 4th of July; and the Season now opening, we shall forthwith determine on some Method of employing the latter, or otherwise dispose of her as may appear most eligible. The Board, previous to the Arrival of the *Kent*, had had some Intentions of

sending her to *Fort St. George*, to return to you with early Advices from thence and this Presidency.

52. Upon a Report from the Master Attendant, of the Condition and Value of the *Admiral Stevens*, we agreed to pay for her, at the Price demanded by the Owners, of 59,000 *Arco* Rupees; and Captain Griffin, who we advised you had quitted the *Lapwing* to proceed to *Fort Saint George*, on his private Concerns, having returned to the Place, we gave him the Command of her, appointing, upon proper Recommendations, Messrs. James Angus, James Lenox, Edward Wilson, and Robert Fairfull, her Officers; we at the same Time wrote to *Cassimbazar* and *Dacca*, to send us down from each Factory for her 100 Bales of their finest Piece Goods, and we have the Satisfaction to find she carries you upon the Whole, considering her Size, a valuable Charge, the Amount being as per Invoice C. Rs. 794, 100.

53. With a View to increase it as much as possible, we determined, upon an Application from the Captain and Officers on the Subject of their Privilege, to make them a Tender, in Lieu of any Allowance in her Tonnage, of the Sum of 10,000 *Arco* Rupees; and the same having been accepted, we required from them an Acknowledgement of it, with an Obligation not to ship, in Consequence thereof, any Merchandize as Adventure.

54. We have also given in Charge to Captain Griffin 1500 Ounces of foreign Silver, for the Use of the Ship, in Case she should be under a Necessity of touching at any Place, and advanced him the Sum of A. Rs. 3918. 4, on Account of Four Months Imprest of himself, Officers, and Europeans, his Table Allowance for the Voyage, and usual Batta on this Account, from his Appointment to this Time.

55. Since writing the foregoing, we have received Advice from the Gentlemen at *Fort Saint George*, of the Arrival at that Place of the *Grenville* and *Fox*, on the 6th and 7th Instant, the former having touched at *Saint Jago* and *Falso Bay*, from whence she failed the 21st of July, and lost there by Desertion, Thirteen of her Recruits, besides Twelve buried on her Passage; but we are sorry to learn at the same Time the long Detention which the *Speke*, *Pacifick*, and *Pomborne* met with at *Spidehead* from contrary Winds; we hope, however, they took the Opportunity of sailing about the same Time as the *Fox*, and that we shall soon have some Accounts of them in these Parts; we now find, by your Advices to that Presidency of the 4th January, that the *Palmouth* is not to return to you, but only taken up for the Run to *India*, to assist in bringing out our Recruits: Those Gentlemen expected to give the Earl of *Middlesex* her Dispatches about the End of this Month, and at their Request we transmit you a Copy of the Invoice of Provisions put on board her here for victualing the Prisoners from the *French Islands*, that the Commanders may account with you for the same. We also forward a Packet received from them to your Address, with one from the Gentlemen at *Fort Marlborough*. The *Buckingham* having concluded her Destination to that Place, we understand, is likewise arrived at *Fort Saint George*.

56. The Mint Master having laid before the Select Committee a Representation, setting forth the Inconveniences resulting to the Company, and the Public, from the Stop put to the issuing of new Siccas, and the Difficulties and Danger consequent on any Attempt to a general Re-coinage, or Abolition of the annual Fall of the Batta on Sicca Rupees, the same has been referred to us, and is at present under our Consideration; he has now presented an Address to the Board, with separate Statements of the Mint for a Year before and after he took the Charge of it, and the Assay Book from the latter Time, to which he referred us for an Explanation of the Advantages arising from the Regulations propounded by him in the Month of January; and, at his Request, we transmit you in the Packet, Copies of those different Addresses, as also the Assay Book,

and Copies of the Statements accompanying the last to the Board, that by referring them to, and consulting the Tower Office, you may be perfectly satisfied of the Nature of the Improvements he has made, and how far his Appointment to the Direction of the Mint has answered Expectation.

57. The Members of the Select Committee have entered a Minute in Reply to Mr. *Lycester's*, before-mentioned, confirming his Dissent to the Diminution of the Council; Messrs. *Lycester* and *Gray* have also on their Parts delivered in other Minutes, upon the Sentiments recorded by the Committee on their Conduct, and Mr. *Burdett's*, in not conforming to Mr. *Sumner's* Desire upon the same Subject; Mr. *Lycester*, a further one, touching the Powers of the Committee, to which last they have informed him they shall reply to you in their own Department; and Mr. *Gray*, another, in Consequence of Imputations laid to his Charge before Lord *Clive*, which he has desired may be enquired into before the Board, and his Lordship has acquainted him, shall be communicated to them accordingly.—You will find all these recorded in the Proceedings of the 25th Instant, and we beg to refer them with the rest to your Perusal and Consideration.

58. We have also received an Answer from Mr. *Burdett* to Lord *Clive's* Minute upon his Resignation, and the Letter referred to in it from *Raja Doolubram*, confirming his first Reason assigned for quitting the Service at the Time he did, and declining to answer to the Demand from *Roy Dulub*, till he should be first informed what Punishment would be inflicted on him, if he should prove him guilty of a Falshood; upon which, his Lordship has intimated, That he has not Leisure at present to reply thereto, but will do it fully by the next Ship.

59. Upon the Perusal of a Draft of the Letter, Lord *Clive* remarked, on the Circumstances mentioned in Mr. *Middleton's* Address to the Board, quoted in the 23d Paragraph, That he did not tell him, as there related, "It was the Intention of the Committee to remove him shortly, and place Mr. *Sykes* in his Stead;" but only, "That this Gentleman was soon to proceed to the City on particular Business from them."

60. The Select Committee have laid before us a Copy of their Proceedings, containing their Conclusion of the Plan for carrying on the Inland Trade, with respect to the Company and the Classes of Proprietors; and the same has been delivered over to the Committee for managing the Trade, with Instructions to proceed conformably thereto.

61. General *Carnac* having declined receiving a Present from the King, as he had not the Consent of the Governor and Council, his Majesty has written a Letter to the Board, representing, that the General has always refused to accept any Reward for his great Services; that to permit him to remain unrewarded, is injurious to his royal Dignity, and that it is therefore his Majesty's Pleasure, that we grant General *Carnac* Permission to receive from his Royal Bounty the Sum of Two Lacks of Rupees.

62. You are so well acquainted with the Merits and Moderation of this Gentleman, that we need not add our Sentiments on the Subject: The great Attention and Respect he has always paid the King, from the

Time of his Majesty's Misfortunes, when he surrendered himself at *Patna*, to his present State of Peace and Affluence, together with the Attachment shewn to him on many Occasions in the Field, demand some Return of Gratitude; and we trust you will rejoice that an Opportunity should at last offer, of placing General *Carnac* in a State of Independance, at the Eve of a long and faithful Service.

63. There being some Doubts, whether the Power of Permission, upon such Occasions, is intended to be lodged with the Governor and Council, we have not absolutely granted it, but refer it to you; and should be glad of your Instructions for our Guidance in future. We beg Leave only to observe, That such Power would perhaps be a Means of keeping the Military in proper Subjection to the Civil Authority in this Settlement.

64. Mr. *Peter Downes* having, some Time ago, requested Permission to quit his Office, in order to prepare for his Return to *Europe*, has now resigned the Service, and proceeds by this Ship.

65. The Mayor's Court have presented to us a List of several Law Books wanted for the Use of the Court, which they request may be sent them by the first Opportunity, and the same is transmitted you in the Packet.

66. We have only further to add, that the necessary Papers respecting this Ship are inclosed; and wishing her safe and speedy Arrival with you, we have the Honour to remain, with Respect,

Honourable Sirs,  
Your most faithful and  
obedient humble Servants,

*Fort William,*  
the 30th Sept. 1765.

*Clive,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Charles Sykes,*  
*R. Lycester,*  
*George Gray.*

#### Postscript.

1. Since concluding this Address, it has occurred to us, that we are much in Want of several printed Sets of the Act of Parliament for the Punishment of Mutiny and Desertion among your Troops here, with which we request you will furnish us by the first Opportunity.

2. At a Consultation of this Day for the Dispatch of the Ship, Mr. *Lycester* entered a further Minute respecting the Present which he received from the Nabob when in a Deputation to him. Mr. *Gray* recorded one likewise, on the same Subject as that mentioned in the 57th Paragraph, upon certain Imputations laid against his Charge, which he requested might be enquired into; to both which we beg, as before, to refer you. And we remain, with Respect,

Honourable Sirs,  
Your most faithful and  
obedient humble Servants,

*Fort William,*  
the 30th Sept. 1765.

*Clive,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Charles Sykes,*  
*R. Lycester,*  
*George Gray.*



Nº 73.

Calcutta, 30th September 1765.

Gentlemen,

BY the Letter from the Select Committee, and Copy of their Proceedings, which are transmitted to you by this Conveyance, you will be enabled to form a general Idea of the State of this Settlement on the Arrival of the Ship *Kent*, together with the Measures we thought necessary to pursue, in order to settle the Company's Affairs in these Provinces upon an advantageous and permanent Foundation. You will permit me, however, to lay before you my own Sentiments in particular, concerning these Measures, and to communicate also, by this earliest Opportunity, such others, as I wish should be adopted before I quit the Government, and which I hope will be not only approved of, but likewise so fully confirmed and established by the Court of Directors, that the Abuses, which may otherwise be revived by the Ambition and Avarice of some future Governors or Councils, may be effectually prevented.

Upon my Arrival, I am sorry to say, I found your Affairs in a Condition so nearly desperate, as would have alarmed any Set of Men, whose Sense of Honour, and Duty to their Employers, had not been estranged by the too eager Pursuit of their own immediate Advantage. The sudden, and, among many, the unwarrantable Acquisition of Riches, had introduced Luxury in every Shape, and in its most pernicious Excess. These Two enormous Evils went Hand in Hand together through the whole Presidency, infecting almost every Member of each Department; every Inferior seemed to have grasped at Wealth, that he might be enabled to assume that Spirit of Profusion, which was now the only Distinction between him and his Superior. Thus all Distinction ceased, and every Rank became, in a Manner, upon an Equality; nor was this the End of the Mischief, for a Contest of such a Nature among our Servants necessarily destroyed all Proportion between their Wants and the honest Means of satisfying them. In a Country where Money is plenty, where Fear is the Principle of Government, and where your Arms are ever victorious; in such a Country, I say, it is no Wonder that Corruption should find its Way to a Spot so well prepared to receive it. It is no Wonder that the Lust of Riches should readily embrace the proffered Means of its Gratification, or that the Instruments of your Power should avail themselves of their Authority, and proceed even to Extortion, in those Cases where simple Corruption could not keep Pace with their Rapacity. Examples of this Sort, set by Superiors, could not fail of being followed, in a proportionable Degree, by Inferiors; the Evil was contagious, and spread among the Civil and Military, down to the Writer, the Ensign, and the Free Merchant.

3. The large Sum of Money acquired by Donation, besides the Means I have already mentioned, were so publicly known and vindicated, that every one thought he had a Right to enrich himself, at all Events, with as much Expedition as possible; the Monopoly of Salt, Beetle, Tobacco, &c. was another Fund of immense Profits to the Company's Servants, and likewise to such others as they permitted to enjoy a Share, while not a Rupee of Advantage accrued to the Government, and very little to the Company, from that Trade. Before I had discovered these various Sources of Wealth, I was under great Astonishment to find Individuals so suddenly enriched, that there was scarce a Gentleman in the Settlement who had not fixed upon a very short Period for his Return to England with Affluence. From hence

arose that forward Spirit of Independence, which in a Manner set all your Orders at Defiance, and dictated a total Contempt of them, as often as Obedience was found incompatible with private Interest. At the Time of my Arrival, I saw nothing that bore the Form or Appearance of Government: The Authority and Pre-eminence of the Governor, were levelled with those Counsellors; every Counsellor was as much a Governor as he who bore the Name; and Distinction of Rank, as I have already observed, was no longer to be found in the whole Settlement. Notwithstanding a special Order from the Court of Directors, founded on very wise and very evident Reasons, that all Correspondence with the Country Powers should be carried on solely in the Governor's Name, I found that our whole Correspondence with the Great Mogul, the Subahs, Nabobs, and Rajahs, had been of late carried on by, and in the Name of, the whole Board, and that every Servant and Free Merchant corresponded with whom they pleased.

4. Your Orders for the Execution of the Covenants were positive, and expressly mentioned to be the Resolution of a General Court of Proprietors: Your Servants at Bengal, however, determined to reject them; and had not the Select Committee resolved, that the Example should be first set by the Council, or a Suspension from your Service take Place, it is certain they would have remained unexecuted to this Hour. You will not, I imagine, be much surpris'd at this Breach of Duty, if you look over the General Letters, where you cannot avoid seeing how many are annually committed, and how fast every Thing was tending to a Contempt of your Authority. From a short Survey of the late Transactions, I was convinced, that no other Remedy was left, than an immediate and vigorous Exertion of the Powers, with which the Committee were invested. Happy, in my Opinion, was it for the Company, that such Powers were granted; for that the Settlement, so conducted, could have subsisted another Twelvemonth, appears to me an Impossibility. A great Part of the Revenues of the Country, amounting to near Four Millions Sterling *per Annum*, would have been divided among your Servants; and the Acquisition of Fortunes being so sudden, a few Months must have brought Writers into Council, Seniority must have been admitted as a just Claim to a Seat at the Board, without the Qualification of Age or Experience, because the Rapidity of Succession denied the Attainment of either.

5. Nor were these Excesses confined to your Civil Servants alone, the Military Departments also had caught the Infection; and Riches, the Bane of Discipline, were daily promoting the Ruin of our Army. The too little Inequality of Rank rendered the Advantages of Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns, so nearly upon a Par, and so large, that an independent Fortune was no distant Prospect, even to a Subaltern. If a too quick Succession, among those from whom you expect the Study of Commerce and Policy, is detrimental to your civil Concerns, how effectually destructive must that Evil prove to your Military Operations? The most experienced European Officer, when he has entered into the *East India* Service, although he may be able in many Points to suggest Improvement to others, will nevertheless find that something new remains for himself to learn, peculiar to this Service, which cannot be attained in a Day—Judge then how the Cause must stand with Youths, who are either just sent out from the Academy; or, which more frequently happens, who have no Education at all; for to such have we often been reduced to

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the Necessity of granting Commissions. How much mult the Expectations of your Army be raised, when they are suffered, without Controul, to take Possession, for themselves, of the whole Booty, Donation Money, and Plunder, on the Capture of a City? This, I can assure you, happened at *Barras*; and, what is more surprising, the then Governor and Council, so far from laying in a Claim to the Moiety which ought to have been reserved for the Company, agreeable to those positive Orders from the Court of Directors a few Years ago, when they were pleased to put their Forces upon the same Footing with those of His Majesty, gave up the Whole to the Captors.—You have heard of the general Mutiny that happened among your *Scapays* a little before my Arrival.—What would have been your Contemnation, had you also heard of an unanimous Defection of your *European* Soldiery. These were very serious Events indeed; and had it not been for One well-timed vigorous Act of Major *Munro*, and the unwearied Zeal and Military Abilities of General *Carnac*, who totally suppressed the Spirit of Mutiny among the Soldiers, your Possessions in *India* might, at this Time, have been destitute of a Man to support them, and even the Privilege of Commerce irrecoverably crushed. Common Justice to the Principles and Conduct of General *Carnac*, oblige me further to add, that I found him the only Officer of Rank who had resisted the Temptations to which, by his Station, he was constantly subject, of acquiring an immense Fortune; and I question much, whether he is not the only Man who has, of late Years, been honoured with the Command of your Forces, without acquiring a very large Independency. The Letter from the Great Mogul to the Governor and Council, requesting the Permission for him to accept a Present of Two Laak, which his Majesty is desirous of bestowing on him as a Reward for his disinterested Services, will corroborate what I have said in his Favour; and as this Affair, agreeable to the Tenor of the Covenants, is referred to the Court of Directors, I make no Doubt, they will readily embrace the Opportunity of shewing their Regard to such distinguished Merit, by consenting to his Acceptance of his Majesty's Bounty.

6. If the Picture I have drawn be a faithful Likeness of the Presidency, (and I call upon the most guilty, for guilty there are, to shew that I have aggravated a Feature to what a deplorable Condition must your Affairs soon have been reduced? Every State (and such now is your Government in *India*) must be near its Period, when the Rage of Luxury and Corruption has seized upon its Leaders and Inhabitants. Can Trade be encouraged for public Benefit, where the Management unfortunately devolves upon those who make private Interest their Rule of Action? And, farther, Has sudden Affluence ever failed, from the Infancy of Military Discipline to the present Perfection of it, to corrupt the Principle and destroy the Spirit of an Army? Independency of Fortune is always averse to those Duties of Subordination, which are inseparable from the Life of a Soldier; and in this Country, if the Acquisition be sudden, a Relaxation of Discipline is more immediately the Consequence. I would not be thought, by these Observations, to exclude Riches from the Military: Honour alone is scarcely a sufficient Reward for the toilsome Service of the Field. But the Acquisition of Wealth ought to be so gradual, as to admit not a Prospect of completing it, till Succession, by Merit, to the Rank of a Field Officer should have laid a good Foundation for the Claim. Such is the Idea I entertained of this Matter, when I delivered my Sentiments to the Court of Directors, in my Letter of the 27th April 1764; and I have acted in Conformity thereto, by regimenting the Troops in the Manner I then proposed. I need not repeat the Observations I troubled you with in that Letter. It is sufficient to remark here, that the good Effects of the Plan are already visible,

that Subordination is restored, Abuses corrected, and your Expenses, of Course, already greatly diminished.

7. The War, which, to my great Concern, I found extended above 700 Miles from the Presidency, is now happily concluded, and a Peace established upon Terms which promise lasting Tranquillity to these Provinces. This Event has, I find, disappointed the Expectations of many, who thought of nothing but a March with the King to *Delhi*. My Resolution however was, and my Hopes will always be, to confine our Assistance, our Conquest, and our Possessions, to *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*: To go farther is, in my Opinion, a Scheme so extravagantly ambitious and absurd, that no Governor and Council in their Senses can ever adopt it, unless the whole System of the Company's Interest be first entirely new modelled.

8. I forbear troubling you with a Detail of the Negotiations of General *Carnac* and me, with the Country Powers, and the Particulars of the Treaty of Peace with the Vizier of the Empire, as they will be spoken of at large in the Letter from the Select Committee, and appear likewise upon the Face of our Proceedings. I will, however, just remark, that our restoring to *Shujah Dowla* the Whole of his Dominions, proceeds more from the Policy of not extending the Company's territorial Possessions, than the generous Principle of attaching him for ever to our Interest by Gratitude, though this has been the apparent, and is by many thought to be the real, Motive. Had we ambitiously attempted to retain the conquered Country, Experience would soon have proved the Absurdity and Impracticability of such a Plan. The Establishment of your Army must have been added to your List, and more Chiefs appointed; the Acts of Oppression, and innumerable Abuses, which would have been committed, and which could neither have been prevented nor remedied, at so great a Distance from the Presidency, must infallibly have laid the Foundation of another War, destructive and unsuccessful; our old Privileges and Possessions would have been endangered by every Supply we might have been tempted to afford in Support of the new; and the Natives must have finally triumphed in our Inability to sustain the Weight of our own Ambition.

9. To return to the Point from which this Digression has led me, I must carry you back to the Description above given of the Situation in which I found your Affairs on my Arrival. Two Paths were evidently open to me: The one smooth, and strewed with Abundance of rich Advantages that might easily be picked up; the other untrodden, and every Step opposed with Obstacles. I might have taken Charge of the Government upon the same Footing on which I found it; that is, I might have enjoyed the Name of Governor, and have suffered the Honour, Importance, and Dignity of the Post, to continue in their State of Annihilation; I might have contented myself, as others had before me, with being a Cypher, or, what is little better, the First among Sixteen Equals; and I might have allowed this passive Conduct to be attended with the usual Douceur of sharing largely with the rest of the Gentlemen in all Donations, Perquisites, &c. arising from the absolute Government and Disposal of all Places in the Revenues of this opulent Kingdom; by which Means I might soon have acquired an immense Addition to my Fortune, notwithstanding the Obligations in the new Covenants; for the Man who can so easily get over the Bar of Conscience as to receive Presents after the Execution of them, will not scruple to make use of any Evasions that may protect him from the Consequence. The Settlement in general would thus have been my Friends, and only the Natives of the Country my Enemies. If you can conceive a Governor in such a Situation, it is impossible to form a wrong Judgment of the inferior Servants, or of the Company's Affairs, at such a Presidency.

Agency. An honourable Alternative however lay before me: I had the Power within my own Breast to fulfil the Duty of my Station, by remaining incorruptible in the midst of numberless Temptations artfully thrown in my Way; by exposing my Character to every Attack which Malice or Resentment are so apt to invent, against any Man who attempts Reformation; and by encountering, of course, the Odium of the Settlement. I hesitated not a Moment which Choice to make; I took upon my Shoulders a Burden which required Resolution, Perseverance, and Constitution, to support. Having chose my Part, I was determined to exert myself in the Attempt, happy in the Reflection that the Honour of the Nation, and the very Being of the Company, would be maintained by the Success; and conscious, that if I failed, my Integrity and good Intentions, at least, must remain unimpeached. The other Members of the Committee joined with me in Opinion, That, in order to proceed upon Business, it was absolutely necessary for us to assume the Powers wherewith we were invested.—We saw plainly, that most of the Gentlemen in Council had been too deeply concerned themselves, in the Measures which required Amendment, for us to expect any Assistance from them; on the contrary, we were certain of finding Opposition to every Plan of Innovation, and an unanimous Attempt to defeat the Intentions of the Proprietors who solicited my Acceptance of the Government. The Committee therefore immediately met, and I had the Happiness to find myself supported by Gentlemen whom no Temptations could seduce, no Inconveniences or Threats of Malice deter. Our Proceedings will convince you, that we have dared to act with Firmness and Integrity, and will at the same Time demonstrate, that Temper, Unanimity, and Dispatch, must ever mark the Proceedings of Men unbiassed by private Interest.

10. The Gentlemen in Council of late Years, at Bengal, seem to have been actuated, in every Consultation, by a very obdurate and mischievous Spirit. The Office of Governor has been in a manner hunted down, stripped of its Dignity, and then divided into Sixteen Shares. Whether Ambition, Obstinacy, Pride, or Self-Interest, is usually the Motive to such a Pursuit, I will not take upon me to determine; but I am sure it can never arise from a just Idea of Government, or a true Sense of the Company's Interest. In my Opinion, it is the Duty of the Council to make the Power of the President appear as extensive as possible in the Eyes of the People; that all Correspondence with the Country Princes, should be carried on through him alone, some particular Cases excepted; that the Council should, upon all Occasions, be unanimous in supporting, not in extenuating, the Dignity of his Station; and that he ought to be considered among the Natives as the sole Manager and Conductor of Political Affairs. This should be the outward Appearance of Administration, though in Reality the Council must be allowed a Freedom of Judgment; and when they perceive in the Governor a Tendency to absolute or unjustifiable Measures, it then becomes their Duty to check him. If they at any Time have Reason to distrust the Rectitude of his Principles, they should not allow him to execute Designs, even of the smallest Moment, without previously laying them before the Board, and obtaining their Approbation. In short, the best Governor should not, except in Cases of Necessity, be suffered to conclude any Points of Importance without the Sanction of the Board. But the Expedient of a Select Committee equally prevents any ill Conduct in the Governor, and is besides attended with Advantages, which can rarely be expected from the whole Body of Counsellors. Five Gentlemen well versed in the Company's true Interest, of Abilities to plan, and Resolution to execute, Gentlemen whose Fortunes are honourably approaching to Affluence, and whose Integrity has never suffered

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them to exceed the Bounds of Moderation: A Select Committee, composed of such Men, will transact more Business in a Week, than the Council can in a Month. The Opinions and Judgment of Five Men are as securely to be relied on, even in Affairs of the utmost Consequence, as Sixteen: They are less liable to Diffusion, and it may be laid beyond a Contradiction, that their Administration is more distant from democratic Anarchy. The Council, however, would not be a useless Body; for whilst the Attention of the Committee was chiefly engaged in watching and repairing the main Springs of Government, the Council would as materially serve the Company, in attending to the many other Movements of the grand Machine, which are as essentially necessary to the public Advantage and Security. And that the Committee should not be able to carry their Powers to any dangerous Length, they might be ordered annually, before the Dispatch of the *Europe* Ships, to submit their Proceedings to the Review of the Gentlemen in Council, who might transmit their Opinions thereupon to the Court of Directors. Your present Select Committee have from Time to Time laid most of their Proceedings before Council, and we intend to continue the same System of Candour, except in any political Cases of Secrecy; when Prudence may require that our Resolutions should be confined to the Knowledge of a few.

11. Thus freely I have given you my Opinion upon the Sort of Government I could wish to see established in this Settlement; nor shall I think my Duty done, till I have pointed out every Measure that seems to me best calculated to preserve your Affairs from Destruction. At Bengal the Rule of Succession among your Servants is perniciously exact: There are frequent Occasions where it ought to be set aside; where Experience, Understanding, Integrity, Moderation, ought to take Place of accidental Seniority. The Demerits of most of your superior Servants have been so great, as you will learn from the Committee Proceedings, that one can hardly imagine their future Behaviour will intitle them to farther Favours than you have hitherto bestowed on them. I do not pretend to surmise what Sentence you may pronounce upon the Gentlemen who came under the Censure of the Committee; but whether it be moderate as ours, or severe as it deserves, it will not much concern them, since all of them are now in very silent Circumstances, and will probably return to *Europe* by this or the next Year's Shipping. Peruse then the List of your covenanted Servants upon this Establishment. You will find that many of those next in Succession are not only very young in the Service, and consequently unfit for such exalted Stations, but are also strongly tainted with the Principles of their Superiors.—If your Opinion should correspond with mine, some Remedy will be judged necessary to be applied, and I confess I see but one. The unhappy Change which within these few Years has arisen in the Manners and Conduct of your Servants at Bengal, is alone sufficient to remove the Objections I once had to Appointments from another Settlement: And the Difficulty, which now too plainly appears, of filling up Vacancies in Council with the requisite Attention to the Company's Honour and Welfare, inclines me to wish such Appointments more frequent. In the present State of this Presidency, no Measure can, I think, prove more salutary, than to appoint Five or Six Gentlemen from the *Coast* to the Bengal Establishment, and there to posit them agreeable to their Rank and Standing in the Service; Messrs. *Rufell*, *Floyer*, *Alderley*, and *Kelsall*, are among those who would be well worthy your Attention, if this Plan should be adopted. I cannot help further recommending to your Consideration, whether, if every other Method should be found ineffectual, the transplanting a few of the young Bengal Servants to *Madras* would not be of signal Service both to themselves and the Company. You will likewise consider whether the

Settlement of *Bombay* is capable of furnishing us with a few meritorious Servants. With regard to *Madras*, the Conduct of the Gentlemen upon that Establishment is in general so unexceptionable, that to prevent *Bengal* with such Examples of Regularity, Discretion, and Moderation, would, I think, be a Means of restoring it to good Order and Government. It is past a Doubt, that every Attempt of Reformation must fail, unless the Superior Servants be exemplary in their Principles and Conduct. If we see nothing but Rapacity among Counsellors, in vain shall we look for Moderation among Writers.

12. The Sources of Tyranny and Oppression, which have been opened by the *European* Agents acting under the Authority of the Company's Servants, and the numberless Black Agents and Sub-Agents acting also under them, will, I fear, be a lasting Reproach to the *English* Name in this Country: It is impossible to enumerate the Complaints that have been laid before me by the unfortunate Inhabitants, who had not forgot that I was an Enemy to Oppression. The Necessity of securing the Confidence of the Natives, is an Idea I have ever maintained, and was in hopes would be invariably adopted by others; but Ambition, Success, and Luxury, have, I find, introduced a new System of Politics, at the severe Expence of *English* Honour, of the Company's Faith, and even of common Justice and Humanity. The Orders, so frequently issued, That no Writers shall have the Privilege of Duitticks, I have strictly obeyed; but I am sorry to inform you, that all the wished-for Consequences are not to be expected; the Officers of the Government are so sensible of our Influence and Authority, that they dare not presume to search or stop a Boat, protected by the Name of a Company's Servant; and you may be assured that Frauds of that Kind, so easy to be practised, and so difficult to be detected, are but too frequent. I have at last, however, the Happiness to see the Completion of an Event, which, in this Respect as well as in many others, must be productive of Advantages hitherto unknown, and at the same Time prevent Abuses that have hitherto had no Remedy: I mean the Dewannee, which is the Superintendancy of all the Lands, and the Collection of all the Revenues of the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*. The Assistance which the Great Mogul had received from our Arms and Treasury, made him readily bestow this Grant upon the Company; and it is done in the most effectual Manner you can desire. The Allowance for the Support of the Nabob's Dignity and Power, and the Tribute to his Majesty, must be regularly paid; the Remainder belongs to the Company. Revolutions are now no longer to be apprehended; the Means of effecting them will, in future, be wanting to ambitious Mussulmen; nor will your Servants, Civil or Military, be tempted to foment Disturbances, from whence can arise no Benefit to themselves. Restitution, Donation Money, &c. &c. will be perfectly abolished, as the Revenues from whence they used to issue will be possessed by ourselves. The Power of supervising the Provinces, though lodged in us, should not, however, in my Opinion, be exerted. Three Times the present Number of Civil Servants would be insufficient for that Purpose: Whereas, if we leave the Management to the old Officers of the Government, the Company need not be at the Expence of One additional Servant; and though we may suffer in the Collection, yet we shall always be able to detect and punish any great Offenders, and shall have some Satisfaction, in knowing that the Corruption is not among ourselves: By this Means also the Abuses inevitably springing from the Exercise of territorial Authority, will be effectually obviated; there will still be a Nabob, with an Allowance suitable to his Dignity, and the territorial Jurisdiction will still be in the Chiefs of the Country, acting under him and the Presidency in Conjunction, though the Revenues will belong to the Company. Besides, were the Company's Officers to be the

Collectors, foreign Nations would immediately take Umbrage; and Complaints preferred to the *British* Court might be attended with very embarrassing Consequences: Nor can it be supposed, that either the *French*, *Dutch*, or *Danes*, will acknowledge the *English* Company Nabob of *Bengal*, and pay into the Hands of their Servants the Duties upon Trade, or the Quit Rents of those Districts, which they have for many Years possessed by Virtue of the Royal Phirmaund, or by Grants from former Nabobs.

13. Your Revenues, by Means of this new Acquisition, will, as near as I can judge, not fall far short, for the ensuing Year, of 250 Lacks of *Sicca* Rupees, including your former Possessions of *Burdwan*, &c. Hereafter they will at least amount to 20 or 30 Lacks more. Your Civil and Military Expences, in Time of Peace, can never exceed 60 Lack of Rupees; the Nabob's Allowances are already reduced to 42 Lack, and the Tribute to the King is fixed at 26; so that there will be remaining, a clear Gain to the Company of 122 Lack of *Sicca* Rupees, or £. 1,650,900 Sterling, which will defray all the Expence of the Investment, furnish the Whole of the *China* Treasury, answer the Demands of all your Settlements in *India*, and leave a considerable Balance in your Treasury: Besides, in Time of War, when the Country may be subject to the Invasions of Bodies of Cavalry, we shall, notwithstanding, be able to collect a sufficient Sum for our Civil and Military Exigencies, and likewise for our Investments; because a very rich Part of the *Bengal* and *Babar* Dominions are situated to the Eastward of the *Ganges*, where we can never be invaded. What I have given you is a real, not imaginary, State of your Revenues, and you may be assured they will not fall short of my Computation.

14. Permit me here to have the Honour of laying before you one striking Circumstance which has occurred to me, in considering the Subject of the Dewannee, and the Consequences of your large Increase of Revenues. I have already observed, that our Acquisition will give no Umbrage to foreign Nations, with respect to our territorial Jurisdiction, so long as the present Appearance of the Nabob's Power is preserved; but I am convinced they will, ere long, entertain Jealousies of our commercial Superiority. Public Complaints have indeed been already made from both *French* and *Dutch* Factories, that the Dread of the *English* Name, added to the Encouragement of your Servants at the different Aurungs, has deterred the Weavers from complying with their usual and necessary Demands; and I am persuaded, that, sooner or later, national Remonstrances will be made on that Subject. Perhaps One Half of the Trade being reserved to the *English* Company, and the other divided between the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Danes*, in such Proportions as may be settled between their respective Commisaries, might adjust these Disputes to the mutual Satisfaction of all Parties. Besides, as every Nation which trades to the *East Indies* constantly brings out Silver, for the Purchase of Merchandize in Return, and as our Revenues will, for the future, enable us to furnish all our Investments, without any Remittance from *England*, it seems necessary that we should, in some Degree, encourage the Trade of others, in order that this Country may be supplied by them with Bullion, to replace the Quantity we shall annually send to *China*, or to any other Part of the World. It is impossible for me to be a sufficient Judge of the Practicability or Propriety of admitting other Nations to such a Proportion of Trade with us in these Parts; nor will you suspect that I entertain a Thought of taking any Step, without Instructions from you, in an Affair of such national Importance. I do not even presume to argue upon the Subject; I only mention it as a Point which has occurred to me, and which, I think, well merits your most serious Consideration.

15. Considering the Excesses we have of late Years manifested in our Conduct, the Princes of *Indoan* will not readily imagine us capable of Moderation, nor can we expect they will ever be attached to us by any other Motive than Fear. *Meer Jaffer, Cossin Ali*, the Nabob of *Arcot* (the best *Musliman* I ever knew) have afforded Instances sufficient of their Inclination to throw off the *English* Superiority. No Opportunity will ever be neglected that seems to favour an Attempt to extirpate us, though the Consequences, while we keep our Army complete, must in the End be more fatal to themselves. This Impudence under the Subjection, as I may call it, to *Europeans* is natural, but so great the Infatuation of the Natives of the Country, that they look no farther than the present Moment, and will put their All to the Hazard of a single Battle. Even our young Nabob, who is the Issue of a Prostitute, who has little Abilities, and less Education to supply the Want of them; mean, weak, and ignorant, as this Man is, he would, if left to himself, and a few of his artful Flatterers, pursue the very Paths of his Predecessors. It is impossible therefore to trust him with Power, and be safe. If you mean to maintain your present Possessions and Advantages, the Command of the Army and Receipt of the Revenues must be kept in your Hands: Every Wish he may express to obtain either, be assured, is an Indication of his Desire to reduce you to your original State of Dependency, to which you can never now return, without ceasing to exist. If you allow the Nabob to have Forces, he will soon raise Money; if you allow him a full Treasury without Forces, he will certainly make use of it to invite the *Marrattas*, or other Powers, to invade the Country, upon a Supposition that we shall not suspect the Part he takes, and that Success will restore him to the full Extent of his Sovereignty; for so ignorant is he, even of the Nature of his own Countrymen, that he would never imagine the very Men he had paid to rescue the Dominions from us, would only conquer to seize the Spoil for themselves. Such is he whom we now call Nabob, and such are the faithless Politics of *Indoan*. We have adopted however a Plan, which, if strictly adhered to, must effectually prevent his involving the Company, or himself, in any Difficulties: *Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Seat*, Men of the most approved Credit and Moderation, are appointed jointly to the Management of all his Affairs, nor is either of them to act singly in any Measure of Government. The Royal Treasury is under Three different Locks and Keys, and each of these Ministers of State has a Key, so that no Money can be issued for any Service whatever, without the joint Knowledge and Consent of them all. Our Resident at the *Durbar* is to inspect the Treasury Accounts from Time to Time, as he or the Governor and Council may think proper: But we are never to interfere in the Appointment or Complaint of any Officer under the Government, nor in any Particulars relative to the above-mentioned Departments, unless some extraordinary Conduct of the Ministry should render Alteration requisite. This Form of Government I thought proper to recommend, in order to purge the Court of a Set of Knaves and Parasites by whom the Nabob was surrounded, and who were always undermining our Influence, that they might the more firmly establish their own. So far you will observe we have exerted ourselves in the Arrangement of the Nabob's Affairs; but it is a Measure of the utmost Consequence, since it lays the Foundation of that Tranquillity, Moderation, and Regularity, which will support the Government against any future Attempts to a Revolution; and we are determined to interest ourselves at the City in no other Respect. I need only add, that Mr. *Sykes*, for whom we intend the Residency, is a Gentleman from whose inflexible Integrity, and long Experience in the Country Politics, we have Reason to expect the most exact Performance of every Duty in such an important Station.

16. The Regulation of the Nabob's Ministry, the

Acquisition of the Dewannee, and the honourable Terms on which we have conducted a Peace with the Vizier of the Empire, have placed the Dignity and Advantages of the *English East India Company* on a Basis, more firm than our most sanguine Wishes could a few Months ago have suggested. These however alone will not ensure your Stability; these are but the Out-works which guard you from your natural Enemies, the Natives of the Country: All is not safe; Danger still subsists from more formidable Enemies within; Luxury, Corruption, Avarice, Rapacity, these have Possession of your principal Posts, and are ready to betray your Citadel. These therefore must be extirpated, or they will infallibly destroy us; for we cannot expect the same Causes which have ruined the greatest Kingdoms should have different Effects on such a State as ours. That sudden Growth of Riches, from whence those Evils principally arise, demands our serious Attention. The Affairs of *Bengal*, however glorious and flourishing the Prospect may now be, cannot be successfully managed by Men whose Views extend not beyond a Year or two, and who will set all Orders from the Court of Directors at Defiance, well knowing they must have acquired an affluent Fortune, or at least a comfortable Independency, before Repentment can reach them. A Competency ought to be allowed to all your Servants, from the Time of their Arrival in *India*, and Advantages should gradually increase to each, in Proportion to his Station; but I would have few of them entertain Hopes of returning to their native Country, till they shall have attained the Rank of Counsellor; then the Prospect should open to them, and they should be certain of being enabled to return in a few Years with independent Fortunes. This Certainty would arise from the Freight Ships, from the Privileges of Trade (the Advantages of which you are not unacquainted with) and also from the Profits upon Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco, agreeable to the new Regulation which we have made, in order to rectify the Abuses that have been so long committed in those Branches of Trade, to the great Detriment of the Country Government, without View of Benefit to the Company.

17. The Regulation now established for the Salt Trade, will, I hope, be entirely to your Satisfaction. I at first intended to propose, that the Company and their Servants should be jointly and equally concerned in the Trade itself; but upon better Consideration, I judged that Plan to be rather unbefitting the Dignity of the Company, and concluded it would be better that they should give the Trade entirely to their Servants, and fix a Duty upon it for themselves, equivalent to half the Profits. This Duty we have computed at the Rate of Thirty-five per Cent. for the present, but, I imagine, it will be able, next Year, to bear an Increase. The Articles of Beetle and Tobacco, being of less Consequence, and yielding much less Advantage, the Duties upon them, of Course, must be less. For farther Particulars of these Regulations, I beg Leave to refer you to the Committee's Letter and Proceedings, as I would not here trouble you with the Repetition of a Matter which is there so fully laid before you.

18. The Advantages proposed for the Governor and Council would undoubtedly appear extremely large, to those who are unacquainted with the Riches of *Bengal*, and the numberless Opportunities which the Company's Servants have of acquiring Money: But you, who are now perfectly informed of the Revenues of these Kingdoms, and the prodigious Emoluments within the Reach of Gentlemen high in the Service, will, I am persuaded, agree with me, that if some Plan, of the Nature proposed, be not adopted, the Governor and Council will not fail to acquire much larger Fortunes, by other Means, in a much shorter Time; which must always be productive of that quick Succession, not only so detrimental to your commercial Interest, but so totally

tally incompatible with the Acquisition of political Knowledge, which ought now to be considered as a very material Qualification, in all your Civil as well as Military Servants. To obviate an Objection which may arise, That they may possibly proceed in the old Way of procuring Money, notwithstanding they accept of these Allowances, I would have an Oath tendered to them, of as strong and solemn a Nature as can be penned; I have drawn out the Form of one, agreeable to my Idea of the Expedient, and have the Honour to inclose it for your Consideration. To this may be annexed a Penalty Bond of £. 150,000, to be executed by the Governor, and of £. 50,000 to be executed by each of the Council. Thus the Conscience of some will be awakened by the legal Consequences of Perjury; and pecuniary Punishment will be a sure Guard over the Honesty of others. Could the Hearts of Men be known by their general Character in Society, or could their Conduct, in a State of Temptation, be ascertained from their moderate Attention to Wealth, whilst the sudden Acquisition of it was impossible, the Proposal I make would be an Affront to Religion and to Morality; but since that is not the Case in any Part of the World, and least of all so in the East, we must for our own Security impose such Restraints, as shall make it impossible even for Hypocrisy to introduce Corruption.

19. Having thus fully submitted to you my Sentiments on the Civil Department, permit me to trouble you with a few Observations on the Military, which deserves a no less serious Attention. In the former Part of this Letter, I have mentioned that Luxury, and an Abhorrence of Subordination, had overspread your Army, but that the good Effects of appointing Field Officers had already become visible. The Committee Letter will inclose a general Return of their Number, and enlarge upon the Necessity of keeping each Regiment complete to the Establishment; I therefore avoid saying any Thing here upon those Subjects. That Letter will also specify the Proportion of Emoluments proposed for the Field Officers, from the new acquired Advantages upon Salt. The same Objection may perhaps be made to this, which I supposed was likely to occur with respect to the Plan for the Benefit of the Civil Servants; if so, I beg Leave to refer you to my Proposal and Remarks upon that Subject, which are equally proper and applicable to this. These Points then I conclude are sufficiently before you; and I proceed to recommend to your Consideration, that the Regimenting of the Troops has introduced a much larger Number of Officers of Rank, than has hitherto been admitted upon your Establishment; and that this Regulation, beneficial and necessary as it is, will, notwithstanding, be productive of one dangerous Evil, if not constantly guarded against by the Authority of the Governor and Council, supported and enforced by the higher Powers at Home. The Evil I mean to apprise you of is, the Encroachment of the Military upon the Civil Jurisdiction, and an Attempt to be independent of their Authority. A Spirit of this Kind has always been visible; our utmost Vigilance therefore is requisite to suppress it, or, at least, to take Care that it shall not actually prevail. I have been at some Pains to inculcate a total Subjection of the Army to the Government, and I doubt not you will ever maintain that Principle. In the Field, in Time of actual Service, I could wish to see the Commander of your Forces implicitly relied on for his Plan of Operations; Orders from the Presidency may frequently embarrass him, and prejudice the Service: At such a Time, he is certainly the best Judge of what Measures should be pursued, and ought therefore to be trusted with discretionary Powers; but he should by no Means be permitted to vary from the first general Plan of a Campaign, nor, from his own Idea of the Company's Interest, to prosecute Operations of Importance, when they are not also of real Utility and Emergency. I dwell not however entirely upon the

Conduct of a Commander of the Forces, as such in the Field; he is to understand, that, upon all Occasions, a Gentleman in the Council is his Superior, unless he also has a Seat at the Board, and then he will of Course rank as he stands in that Appointment. The whole Army should in like Manner be subordinate to the Civil Power; and it is the indispensable Duty of the Governor and Council to keep them so. If at any Time they should struggle for Superiority, the Governor and Council must strenuously exert themselves; ever mindful that they are the Trustees for the Company in this Settlement, and the Guardians of public Property under a civil Institution.

20. It would give me Pain to see a Regulation so salutary as that of the Appointment of Field Officers attended with any Inconveniences; and therefore I would earnestly recommend the following very easy and effectual Mode of Prevention. Let the Equality in civil and military Rank be immediately settled by the Court of Directors. Were Disputes about Precedence the only Points to be adjusted, they would not be worth a Moment's Reflection: But we are to consider, that Opportunities will sometimes happen when military Gentlemen may assume Power and Authority from the Rank they hold among the civil Servants, and perhaps pay no Attention to Orders issued from their supposed Inferiors. Such Contentions may have disagreeable Consequences; and to prevent them, I propose, that all the Colonels (the Commander of the Troops excepted, who is intitled to the Rank of 3d in Council) shall be equal in Rank to the Counsellors, but always the youngest of that Rank; the Lieutenant Colonels should rank with Senior Merchants; the Majors with Junior Merchants; Captains with Factors; and Lieutenants and Ensigns with Writers. The Rank of all Officers below Colonels, and of civil Servants below Counsellors, may be considered according to the Dates of their Commissions and Appointments respectively: When such a Regulation has taken Place, I think the Appointment of Field Officers cannot be charged with a single Inconvenience.

21. Before I quit the Subject of the Army, I must repeat what, if I mistake not, I mentioned to Mr. *Rous* before I left England, the Propriety of appointing Sir *Robert Barker* to the Command of a Regiment in Case of a Vacancy. On the Death of Colonel *Knox*, I hesitated not to appoint Sir *Robert* to the 3d Regiment, but it met with Opposition, not only from some of the Gentlemen in Council, but afterwards from Sir *Robert Fletcher*, who thought himself aggrieved, though at a Time when *Barker* was a Captain, he was only a Volunteer in your Service; and besides Sir *Robert Barker* must on all Occasions, as the elder Officer, have commanded in the Field in the Absence of General *Carnac* and Colonel *Smith*, even if this Appointment had not taken Place. If I could imagine that his Seniority in the Service did not sufficiently entitle him to his Preference, I must urge his Experience, which is greater than that of the other Gentleman, and his Disinterestedness, which made him accept what is so infinitely inferior, in Point of Emoluments, to the Command of the Artillery. Lieut. Colonel *Peach* has in like Manner been objected to by the Majors appointed by the Governors and Council; but it has always been customary to prefer Officers of your own Appointment to those of the same Rank nominated by the Governor and Council: I need not point out the Propriety of your confirming this Gentleman's Commission. The introducing Lieutenant Colonel *Chapman* also to that Rank has met with the same Objections: With regard to him, permit me to acquaint you, that he is a very old Major in the King's Service; that he was strongly solicited at *Madras* to continue there, and on very advantageous Terms, when his Regiment was ordered Home; but that I found him at the *Cape* in his Way to Europe; and it was with the utmost Difficulty that

*Messrs. Sumner and Sykes* and myself could prevail upon him to return to *India* next in Rank to Lieutenant Colonel *Place*. His Merits on the *Coast* have been very great, and I consider him as a very valuable Acquisition to your Service; I therefore most earnestly request you will be pleased to confirm his Appointment as Lieutenant Colonel on this Establishment. Neither of these Three Gentlemen I have here spoken of can be censured for that Spirit of Licentiousness and Independency, which I have pointed out as the great Evils we ought to guard against; and the Variety as well as Length of their Services will certainly be of considerable Advantage to Corps like ours. I must at the same Time confess, that I cannot be responsible for that Discipline and Reformation we mean shall take Place, unless the Field Officers are Men I can depend upon. Most of the Captains now in your Service have had so little Experience, and are, I fear, so liable to the general Objection, that I could wish to have Five or Six Captains sent out who have seen Service, who understand Discipline, and who are well recommended by their Colonels. If you should think proper to extend this Plan to Majors, it will be so much the better; but there is no Occasion to go higher. Among the Appointments you may be pleased to make in *England*, I could wish to find a Majority upon this Establishment for Major *Pembie*, agreeable to the Date of the Brevet given him upon his Arrival at this Place. That Gentleman has seen much Service, both on the *Coast of Chormandel*, and *Manilla*, and at *Bengal*; but being on the *Bombay* Establishment, where the Rise is so very slow, he has had the Mortification to see himself constantly superceded by the *Coast* and *Bengal* Officers. You may be assured I would not trouble you with this Recommendation, if I did not know him to be worthy of your Notice.

22. The Enquiries I have found myself under the Necessity of promoting, the Regulations which I judged proper should take Place without Delay, together with those I have here had the Honour to propose for your mature Deliberation, will, I doubt not, meet with that candid Discussion which the Importance of the Subject requires. You will be pleased, upon the Whole, to observe, that the great Object of my Labour has been (and it must also be yours) to stem that Torrent of Luxury, Corruption, and Licentiousness, which have nearly overwhelmed the Interest, and I might add the Existence, of the Company in these Parts; to reduce your civil Servants to a Sense of Duty to their Employers, and Moderation in the Pursuit of their own Advantages; to introduce Discipline, Subordination, Economy, into your Army; and to prevent, in general, that sudden Acquisition of Riches, which is evidently the Root of almost every other Evil, both in the civil and military Department.

23. Is there a Man anxious for the speedy Return of his Son, his Brother, or his Friend, and solicitous to see that Return accompanied by Affluence of Fortune, indifferent to the Means by which it may have been obtained? Is there a Man, who, void of all but selfish Feelings, can withhold his Approbation of any Plan that promises not sudden Riches to those his dearest Connections; who can look with Contempt upon Measures of Moderation; and who can cherish all upstart Greatness, though stigmatized with the Spoils of the Company? If there is such a Man, to him all Arguments would be vain; to him I speak not.—My Address is to those who can judge coolly of the Advantages to be desired for their Relations and Friends, nor think the Body Corporate wholly uninterested to their Attention. If these should be of Opinion, that an independent Fortune honourably acquired in a faithful Service of 12 or 15 Years, is more compatible with the Interests of the Company, than to the late Rapidity of the Acquisitions, and at the same Time satisfactory to the Expectations of Reason; I will venture to assert that the Regulations already made, together with those proposed, will, when

enforced by the Authority of the Court of Directors, insure to the Company their commercial and political Advantages, and be productive of certain Independency to every Servant who endeavours to deserve it.

24. The general Terms in which I have mentioned the Depravity of this Settlement oblige me to point out to your Attention the Instances, the very few Instances, of distinguished Merit among the superior Servants. To find a Man who, in the Midst of Luxury and Licentiousness, had retained the true Idea of commercial Economy; who, inferior in Fortune to most of your Civil Servants in the Rank of Counsellors, was yet superior to all in Moderation and Integrity; whose Regard for the Welfare of the Public, and for the Reputation of Individuals, had made him warn others from falling into the Temptations of Corruption, which he saw were approaching; and who could actually resist those Temptations himself, when a Share was allotted him of Money he thought unwarrantably obtained: To find such a Man in such a Settlement would appear incredible, to those who are unacquainted with Mr. *Vereff*. I have represented this Gentleman to you, as I should every one, in his real Character; and shall only add, that, if you wish to see the Measures we are now pursuing supported with Integrity, Abilities, and Resolution, you will endeavour to prevail on him to continue in your Service, by appointing him to succeed Mr. *Sumner* in the Government. To omit mentioning Mr. *Carver* would be Injustice, as he also stands high in my Opinion: His Character is clear, and his Attachment to your Service, what it ought to be; unbiassed by any mean Attention to his own Advantages. I wish sincerely your List of superior Servants would enable me to detain you longer on Subjects of Commendation; but I have finished the Picture, and I cannot add another Figure that deserves to be distinguished from the Groupe.

25. Having filled so many Pages upon the Subject of Public Affairs, you will indulge me with a few Lines upon a Circumstance which concerns myself. Mr. *Johnstone*, in his last Minute in Council, has thought proper to throw out some Observations upon the Validity of my Title to the Jaghire; insinuating, that the Defect which he pretends to have discovered was not known at the Time of my Litigation with the Company. As I would not wish that a Point in which my Honour is concerned should pass unnoticed, I must observe that the King's Sundud, which Mr. *Johnstone* affirms was requisite to be obtained within Six Months from the granting of the Jaghire, for the Confirmation of it, is a Matter of Form only, and not understood to be essential. As a Proof of this, I inclose Transactions of various Jaghire Grants, properly attested by Mr. *Vansittart*, the *Persian* Translator; as also an Attestation of the same Gentleman, that the Grant to me was as complete as other Grants of that Nature generally are; but to put this Matter out of Dispute, the Paper of Agreement which Mr. *Johnstone* alludes to, is of no more Consequence than a Piece of Blank Paper, since it was never executed by me, or by any Agent or Vaqueel on my Account; nor was any Agent ever named or thought of by me. Inclosed I transmit you a Translation of the very Paper, attested by Mr. *Van Sittart*.

26. Permit me now to remind you that I have a large Family, who stand in Need of a Father's Protection; that I sacrifice my Health, and hazard my Fortune, with my Life, by continuing in this Climate: The first great Purposes of my Appointment are perfectly answered; Peace is restored, and my Engagement to procure for the Company the Reversion of my Jaghire, is completed in the fullest Manner, since it is not only confirmed by the present Nabob, but by the great Mogul: I now only wait to be informed, whether my Conduct thus far be approved of, and whether the Whole or any Part of the Regulations I have had the Honour to lay before you are conformable to your Ideas of the Reformation necessary to be established; if they

meet with your Approbation, I doubt not you will immediately empower me, in Conjunction with the Select Committee, to finish the Business so successfully begun, which may easily be effected before the End of the ensuing Year; when I am determined to return to Europe, and hope to acquaint you in Person with the Accomplishment of every Wish you can form for the Prosperity of your Affairs in Bengal.

27. I shall conclude this tedious Letter by observing that my Anxiety to know whether you approve of my Conduct or not, can proceed from no other Motive than my Concern for the Public; since I continue invariable in the Resolution I formed, and expressed in a General Court long before the Covenants were proposed, of acquiring no Addition to my Fortune by my Acceptance of the Government; and I beg Leave also to assure you, that in order to obviate all Suspicion of a Collusion in this delicate Point, I have not permitted either of the Gentlemen of my Family to hold an Employment in your Service, nor to receive Presents, although they are not bound by Covenants to the contrary. The small congratulatory Nazurs, Elephants, Horses, &c. which I have been under a Necessity of receiving, do not, I imagine, amount to any considerable Sum; but whatever it may be, not a Farthing shall go into my own Pocket. I have hitherto been too much engaged in Matters of public Importance to attend to a particular Valuation; but I have caused an exact Account to be kept of every, even the most trifling, Present, which at my Return shall be submitted to your Inspection; and in the mean Time the Amount of the Whole shall go towards defraying my extraordinary Expences as Governor. The only Favour I have to solicit for myself is, that although your Treasury here will for the future be

so full as to render it difficult for Individuals to obtain Bills upon the Company, payable at Home, you will be pleased to indulge me with the usual Channel of Remittance of my Jaghire, until it reverts to the Company.

I have the Honour to be,  
with the utmost Respect,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient, and  
most humble Servant,

To the honourable the  
Court of Directors.

*Clive.*

28. I cannot help requesting your Attention to Mr. William Wynne, a young Gentleman whom I brought out to India with me, and whom I was in Hopes of seeing appointed a Writer on the List of that Year. I have caused him to transcribe this Letter, that you may see he is qualified in Point of Penmanship; and as he has lived constantly with me, and acted as Assistant to my Secretary, I can take upon me to be responsible for his Conduct and Abilities in every Respect: It is therefore my particular Request that you confer on him the Station of a Writer, to rank from the Time of his leaving England.

29. I beg also to recommend to your Protection, Mr. Maddison, a Gentleman of a liberal Education, and who promises to be a very valuable Servant to the Company, from an uncommon Facility in acquiring the Persian Language. As he is 27 Years of Age, you will not think me unreasonable in soliciting for him the Appointment of a Factor.

*Clive.*

#### N<sup>o</sup> 74.

Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Select Committee at Fort William in Bengal, 17th May 1766.

1. ON the 19th of last Month we received the several Packets committed to the Care of Captain Griffin, in which was your Letter of the 30th of September, one from Lord Clive, and a General Letter, both dated the same Day.

2. As some of the most important Affairs have fallen under your Management, which have ever occurred since the Company had a Being, it is with the utmost Satisfaction we observe with what Zeal and true Regard to the Interest of your Employers you have pursued such Measures, not only with respect to the political System of the Country, but the arduous Task of discovering, and laying open to our View, the Infidelity, Rapaciousness, and Misbehaviour, of our Servants in general; of all which, you may be fully assured, we have the highest and most grateful Sense.

3. As Stability to your Plans for a peaceable Possession of our Acquisitions, and a thorough Reformation in our Servants in general, are Objects of the greatest Importance, and in which the Preference of Lord Clive is essentially necessary, we made it our unanimous and earnest Request, that his Lordship would continue another Season in Bengal; and which we here again repeat, in Confidence and Hopes of his Lordship's ready Acquiescence to complete what he has laid so good a Foundation for, as you will observe by the accompanying Triplicate of a Letter we addressed to his Lordship, dated the 2d Instant; which, as the Occasion was so important, we sent over Land, for Fear the *Mercury*, by which you will receive this, should not reach Bengal before the Departure of his Lordship.

4. Although we think you have made a most unexpected Progress in investigating the many new and important Affairs that have come before you, yet we consider what you have done as necessarily imperfect, till you have had some Experience of the Effect of your Regulations. You must not therefore look on the following Observations and Directions as carrying any Disapprobation of your Conduct in general, but as Reflections that occur to us on the first View of Affairs so totally new to us. We trust entirely to the Continuance of your zealous Endeavours to bring this great Work to Perfection.

6. From the Sentiments we expressed in every one of our late Letters, you will easily judge the great Pleasure it gave us to see the War with *Sonja Doola* ended so conformable to our Wishes. We always esteemed the Power of that Soubah the strongest Barrier we could have against the Invasions of the Northern Powers, and of the *Moresias*, which have so long laid desolate the Northern Provinces; and had the impolitic injudicious Views of our late Governor and Council been followed, and the King, or *Nudjeef Cawn*, been left in Possession of *Sonja Doola's* Country, we are convinced they would not have had Weight and Abilities to have supported themselves; and we must either have had their Wars to maintain at that immense Distance, or they would have been drove back on us, and brought the War down to our own Frontiers, or even into our own Provinces. Nothing could so effectually restore that Country to its former State, as putting its natural Prince in the full Possession of his Dominions; and we are equally pleased to see the Care that has been taken of all those who shewed their Attachment to us in the Course of the War.

*Burwanting's*



*Burmesing's* joining us at the Time he did, was of signal Service, and the Stipulation in his Favour was what he was justly intitled to.

7. Equally politic and prudent are the Concessions in Favour of the King, whose Interest was but considered by the restoring *Souja Dewla* to his Country, the only Subah in *Indostan* who is ever likely to support him in his Pretensions to the Empire. The Revenue agreed to be paid him must be, in the Eyes of the *Indian Powers*, a Mark of our Respect to the Royal Blood, and an Acknowledgement of his Right. We approve also the being Guarantee for *Nadief Cawn*; and, finally, we hope the Moderation and Attention paid to all those who have espoused our Interest in this War will restore our Reputation in *Indostan*; and that the *Indian Powers* will be convinced no Breach of Treaty will ever have our Sanction. We also hope the 50 Lacks stipulated to be paid by *Souja Dewla* will be, before this reaches you, discharged, and his Dominions entirely evacuated by our Troops; and that none will remain, under Pretence of Protection to the King's Person; for that may lead to Pretensions to support him in his Claim to the Empire, a Measure quite contrary to our Views; being determined to make the Provinces of *Bengal, Babar, and Orissa*, the utmost Bounds of our political Views or Possessions.

8. The Article in the Treaty with *Souja Dewla*, stipulating a Trade Duty-free through his Dominions, we direct to be confined solely to the Company's Trade; and even in that Sense of it, we mean only, if his Dominions produce any Goods fit for the *European Markets*, or if it can be made the Means of extending our Trade in the Woolen Manufacture, or any other *European Goods*.

9. We come now to consider the great and important Affair of the Dewannee, on which we shall give you our Sentiments, with every Objection that occurs to us.

10. When we consider that the Barrier of the Country Government was entirely broke down, and every *Englishman* throughout the Country armed with an Authority that owned no Superior, and exercising his Power to the Oppression of the helpless Native, who knew not whom to obey; at such a Crisis, we cannot hesitate to approve your obtaining the Dewannee for the Company.

11. When we look back to the System that Lord *Clive* and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee found established, it presents to us a *Souba* disarmed, with a Revenue of almost Two Millions Sterling (for so much seems to have been left, exclusive of our Demands on him) at the Mercy of our Servants, who had adopted an unheard-of ruinous Principle, of an Interest distinct from the Company: This Principle shewed itself in laying their Hands upon every Thing they did not deem the Company's Property.

12. In the Province of *Burdwan*, the Resident and his Council took an annual Stipend of near Eighty Thousand Rupees *per Annum*, from the *Rajah*, in Addition to the Company's Salary. This stands on the *Burdwan* Accounts, and we fear was not the Whole; for we apprehend it went further, and that they carried this pernicious Principle, even to the Sharing with the *Rajah* of all he collected beyond the stipulated *Mulgasurry*, or Land Revenue, overlooking the Point of Duty to the Company, to whom properly every Thing belonged that was not necessary for the *Rajah's* Support. It has been the Principle too on which our Servants have falsely endeavoured to gloss over the Crime of their Proceedings, on the Accession of the present *Souba*, and we fear would have been soon extended to the grasping the greatest Share of that Part of the *Nabob's* Revenues which was not allotted to the Company. In short, this Principle was directly undermining the whole Fabric; for whilst the Company were sinking under the Burthen of the War, our Servants were enriching themselves from those very Funds that ought to have supported the War. But to Lord *Clive* and our Select Committee we owe, that the Company are at last confi-

dered as Principals in the Advantages as well as Dangers.

13. We must now turn our Attention to render our Acquisitions as permanent as human Wisdom can make them. This Permanency, we apprehend, can be found only in the Simplicity of the Execution. We observe the Account you give of the Office and Power of the King's *Dewan* in former Times, was the collecting of all the Revenues, and after defraying the Expences of the Army, and allowing a sufficient Fund for the Support of the *Nizamut*, to remit the Remainder to *Delhi*. This Description of it is not the Office we wish to execute; the Experience we have already had in the Province of *Burdwan*, convinces us how unfit an *Englishman* is to conduct the Collection of the Revenues, and follow the subtle Native through all his Arts to conceal the real Value of his Country, to perplex and to elude the Payments. We, therefore, entirely approve of your preserving the ancient Form of Government in the upholding the Dignity of the *Souba*.

14. We conceive the Office of *Dewan* should be exercised only in superintending the Collection and Disposal of the Revenues; which Office, though vested in the Company, should officially be executed by our Resident at the *Durbar*, under the Controul of the Governor and Select Committee; the ordinary Bounds of which Controul should extend to nothing beyond the superintending the Collection of the Revenues, and the receiving the Money from the *Nabob's* Treasury to that of the *Dewannah* or the Company. And this we conceive to be neither difficult nor complicated; for at the annual *Poonah* the Government settles with each *Zemindar* his Monthly Payments for the ensuing Year; so the Monthly Payments of the Whole, from the *Nabob's* *Dewan*, is but the Total of the Monthly Payment of each *Zemindar*; which must be strictly kept up, and if deficient, the Company must trace what particular Province, *Rajah*, or *Zemindar*, has fallen short in his Monthly Payments; or, if it is necessary to extend the Power further, let the annual *Poonah*, by which we mean the Time when every Landholder makes his Agreement for the ensuing Year, be made with the Consent of the *Dewan* or Company. This we conceive to be the whole Office of the *Dewanny*. The Administration of Justice, the Appointment to Offices or *Zemindaries*, in short, whatever comes under the Denomination of Civil Administration, we understand is to remain in the Hands of the *Nabob* or his Ministers.

15. The Resident at the *Durbar* being constantly on the Spot, cannot be long a Stranger to any Abuses in the Government, and is always armed with Power to remedy them; it will be his Duty to stand between the Administration and the Encroachments always to be apprehended from the Agents of the Company's Servants, which must first be known to him; and we rely on his Fidelity to the Company to check all such Encroachments, and to prevent the Oppression of the Natives. — We gave you our Sentiments on the Office of Resident, in our Letter of the 24th *December* last, which were what we thought suitable to the Office as it then stood; but now that is become of so much more Importance, we shall leave the regulating of it to you, and desire you will be very explicit on the Subject; and shall only here fling out some few Thoughts upon it.

16. We would have his Correspondence to be carried on with the Select Committee through the Channel of the President; he should keep a Diary of all his Transactions; his Correspondence with the Natives must be publicly conducted; Copies of all his Letters sent and received be transmitted Monthly to the Presidency, with Duplicates and Triplicates, to be transmitted Home in our General Packet by every Ship.

Letter from the Court of Directors to Lord *Clive*.

My Lord,

1. We have received your Lordship's Letter of the 30th *September* last, which, with the Letter from the Select

Select Committee, and their Proceedings, have given us a clear View of the State in which your Lordship found our Affairs on your Arrival, and the State in which they were at the Time of the said Advice.

2. When we consider the Penetration with which your Lordship at once discerned our true Interest in every Branch, the Rapidity with which you restored Peace, Order, and Tranquillity, and the unbiaſſed Integrity that has governed all your Actions, we muſt congratulate your Lordſhip on being the happy Inſtrument of ſuch extenſive Bleſſings to thoſe Countries; and you have our ſincereſt Thanks for the great and important Advantages thereby obtained for the Company.

3. We have the ſtrongeſt Senſe of the deplorable State to which our Affairs were on the Point of being reduced, from the Corruption and Rapacity of our Servants, and the univerſal Depravity of Manners throughout the Settlement; we agree entirely with your Lordſhip, that the Train our Affairs were then in would in a very few Months have brought us to a moſt dangerous Situation.

4. The War in which we were ſo impolitically engaged againſt *Saja Dewla*, was carrying on at ſuch an immenſe Loſs to the Company, as would in a ſhort Space have funk a great Part of our Capital, and the Funds that ought to have been deſtined to the Support of that War were perverted to the baneful Purpoſe of corrupting our Servants: Nor was this the only fatal Conſequence of this War, Ruin to the Company might have ſprung even from our Succeſs; for either the King, unable to maintain himſelf, would have been drove back on the *Bengal* Provinces; or, if he had been ſucceſſful thro' our Aſſiſtance, the Venality or Ambition of our Servants might have urged them on to have marched our Forces with him to *Delhi*: Your Lordſhip and the Select Committee have happily relieved us from theſe Apprehenſions, and put a Period to the War, and all ſuch wild Projects, by reſtoring *Saja Dewla* to his Dominions.

5. Your Lordſhip juſtly obſerves our Danger from within was yet greater than that from without.—The general Relaxation of all Diſcipline and Obedience, of both Military and Civil, was haſtily tending to a Diſſolution of all Government, the quick Progreſs of Private Fortunes was big with very alarming Conſequences, which we do not dwell on, as you have expreſſed yourſelf ſo fully ſenſible of them; we hold the Means by which they were obtained in every Senſe unlawful.

6. Our Letter to the Select Committee expreſſes our Sentiments of what have been obtained by Way of Donations; and to that we muſt add, that we think the vaſt Fortunes acquired in the inland Trade have been obtained by a Scene of the moſt tyrannic and oppreſſive Conduct that ever was known in any Age or Country: We have been uniform in our Sentiments and Orders on this Subject, from the firſt Knowledge we had of it; and your Lordſhip will not therefore wonder, that, after the fatal Experience we had of the violent Abuses committed in this Trade, that we could not be brought to approve it, even in the limited and regulated Manner with which it comes to us in the Plan laid down in the Committee's Proceedings: We agree in the Opinion with your Lordſhip, on the Propriety of holding out ſuch Advantages to our Chief Servants, Civil and Military, as may open to them the Means of honourably acquiring a Competency in our Service; but the Difficulty of the Subject, and the ſhort Time we have at preſent to conſider of it, have obliged us to defer giving our Sentiments and Directions thereupon until the next Diſpatch.

7. For the ſame Reaſons your Lordſhip will obſerve, by our Letter to the Select Committee, that we are under the neceſſity of poſtpoſing the Conſideration of the Preſent intended for General *Carnac* by the King; but by the next Diſpatch your Lordſhip may be aſſured we ſhall have due Regard therein to your Lordſhip's Recommendations, and his particular Merit.

8. As the inland Trade has been aboliſhed, princi-

pally with a View to the Encouragement of the Natives, we hope your Lordſhip will find the Means to prevent its becoming a Monopoly in any Hands, but more particularly in the Hands of any powerful Native, from whom the Poor might ſuffer thoſe very Inconveniences, for the Prevention of which we have forbid our Servants to trade in it, and have relinquished thoſe Advantages that we ourſelves might make by ſuch a Monopoly.

9. We have had too much Occaſion to remark the tyrannic and oppreſſive Conduct of all *European* Agents, who have got away from under the Eye of the Preſidency; and we wiſh your Lordſhip would make it an Object of your Conſideration, how to confine the ſaid *Europeans* as much as poſſible to the Preſidency, and to thoſe Subordinates where the Largeneſs of the Investment may require it to be conducted by covenanted Servants, preferably to Gomatahs.

10. We have not at preſent Time to enter into the thorough Examination of what your Lordſhip propoſes, reſpecting the eſtabliſhing of Rank and Precedency between our Civil and Military Servants. In our Letter of the 24th of *December*, we determined, that the Preſident and Council might delegate their Authority to any Civil Servant they pleaſed; and every Military Officer, be his Rank what it might, ſhould pay the ſame Obedience to the Orders of ſuch Civil Servant, as to thoſe of the Preſident and Council.—It is not meant however that ſuch Civil Servant is to controul the Military Officer in the Execution of Military Operations, which is his proper Department.

11. We have the moſt perfect Senſe of your Lordſhip's Diſinterereſtedneſs in every Part of your Conduct, and we ſhall not fail to repreſent this to the Proprietors, and ſhall at the ſame Time inform them of the many great Advantages your Lordſhip has obtained for the Company; but we fear, my Lord, paſt Experience will teach them, as it does us, that the Permannency of thoſe Advantages will depend much on your Lordſhip's continuing in *India*, till you have ſeen the Regulations firmly eſtabliſhed for the conducting theſe important Affairs: Another Year's Experience, and peaceable Enjoyment of our Acquiſitions, might fix them on a Baſis that would give Hopes they may be as laſting as they are great; and there is no Doubt, my Lord, but the general Voice of the Proprietors, indeed we may ſay, of every Man who wiſhes well to his Country, will be to join in our Requeſt, that your Lordſhip will continue another Year in *India*: We are very ſenſible of the Sacrifice we aſk your Lordſhip to make, in deſiring your Continuance another Year in *Bengal*, after the great Service you have rendered the Company, and the Difficulties you have paſſed through in accompliſhing them, under Circumſtances, in which your own Example has been the principal Means of reſtraining the general Rapaciouſneſs and Corruption, which had brought our Affairs ſo near the Brink of Ruin: Theſe Services, my Lord, deſerve more than verbal Acknowledgements; and we have no Doubt that the Proprietors will concur with us in Opinion, that ſome ſolid and permanent Reſtitution, adequate to your great Merits, ſhould crown your Lordſhip's Labours and Succeſs.

We are,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's  
loving Friends,

London, 17th May 1766.

<i>Charles Chambers,</i>	<i>Geo. Dudley,</i>
<i>J. Pardoe,</i>	<i>Tho' Rous,</i>
<i>Jo' du Pre,</i>	<i>John Stephenſon,</i>
<i>Tho' Saunders</i>	<i>Chas. Cuſt,</i>
<i>George Cumming,</i>	<i>Heu' Savage,</i>
<i>John Harriſon,</i>	<i>Chriſt' Baron,</i>
<i>J. Purling,</i>	<i>Fred' Pigon,</i>
<i>John Roberts,</i>	<i>F. W. Barrington,</i>
<i>Peter du Cane, Junior,</i>	<i>Edw' Wheler,</i>
<i>George Lubſwell,</i>	<i>Luka Craſton,</i>
<i>Rob. Jones,</i>	<i>E. H. Crutenden.</i>

N<sup>o</sup> 75.

Berkeley Square, 14th January 1768.

Gentlemen,

I Conceived that my Answer to your Secretary's Letter of the 1st Instant might have induced you to reflect, that if there were any Materials in my Possession, which did not appear in the public Proceedings of my Government, they were unnecessary, if not improper, for public Communication; but I find that my Letter, instead of having such Effect, has almost produced a Requisition of some Papers, which you have been informed have been in my Hands, containing Proofs of Mr. *Vanstissart's* having received Seven Lacks of Rupees for making the *Mongbeer* Treaty; as you have thought proper thus to press this Matter, I will not decline to acknowledge that I am possessed of some Informations upon that Subject; I must at the same Time acquaint you, that I transmitted from Bengal to Mr. *Dudley*, your Chairman, my Reasons for not entering into every public Enquiry directed in your Letters by the *Camden*, and I now inclose a Copy of such Part of my Advices to him, for your Observation. I have to add, that, upon my Arrival in *England*, I communicated to your Chairman, Mr. *Ross*, the Informations now alluded to: After such Proceeding on my Part, I might have hoped, that if at any Time these private Materials became necessary to the Court of Directors, on Grounds of public Utility, the Application for them would have been in a private Request from the Chairman, with whom I have ever been most ready to co-operate, and whose Representation of a real Necessity of producing the Particulars would have had Weight with me. I will hope, that upon due Consideration of what I have now laid before you, no farther Exposition will be thought necessary for me.

I have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and

most humble Servant;

*Clive.*

To the honourable the Court of Directors  
for Affairs of the honourable United  
Company of Merchants of *England*,  
trading to the *East Indies*.

Inclosure in N<sup>o</sup> 75.

Extract of a Letter from Lord *Clive* to *George Dudley*, Esquire, dated *Calcutta*, 8th September 1766.

After having explained myself so fully upon this Subject, give me Leave to expostulate with you as Chairman, in that friendly Manner, and on that intire Footing, which I would always wish to be with the present Court of Directors. After a General Court of Proprietors had reposed so much Confidence in me, and that Confidence was so strongly confirmed by a Letter which I received from the Court of Directors, where was the Necessity of pointing out to me so many very disgraceable and odious Enquiries? Could not the Directors have postponed their Sentiments, until they had seen in what Manner I had conducted myself? Could a Court of Directors, for whom I had so high an Esteem, imagine that I would leave ought undone, or unenquired into, that would tend to their Honour, or the Advantage of the Company? Certainly I would not; my own Reputation was too much at Stake to admit a Thought to the contrary.

You may be assured it gives me Pain to be reduced to the Necessity of declining Obedience to any of your Orders; but Retropection into Actions, which have been buried in Oblivion for so many Years; which, if enquired into, may produce Discoveries which cannot bear the Light; which can be of no Advantage to the Company, but may bring Disgrace upon the Nation, and at the same Time blast the Reputation of great and good Families, who will suffer for the Iniquity of Individuals; wantonly to occasion so much Uneasiness is what I cannot reconcile to those Principles of Humanity by which I have always been actuated; neither do I think it sound Policy to enquire into the Proceedings of that Committee which placed *Cosim Ally* upon the Musnad: The bad Actions of Servants frequently reflect Dishonour upon their Masters; the present flourishing Condition of our *East India* Company cannot but occasion much national Jealousy; and Proceedings of such a Nature, made public, might occasion a Parliamentary Enquiry, and that Enquiry might extend to the *India* House itself: Upon Reflection, I am persuaded the Directors will approve of my Conduct in discouraging this Examination, in the Manner pointed out in their General Letter of *Lord Camden*.

With regard to the other Enquiries, where the Company's Interest and Honour are more immediately concerned, they shall be fully investigated.

N<sup>o</sup> 76.

*Pefinas*, 20th April 1768.

Gentlemen,

I Have received another Letter from your Secretary, demanding, a Second Time, some Papers relative to Mr. *Vanstissart's* Conduct in *Bengal*. Although I still persevere in thinking you have no Manner of Right to require the Papers from me, yet as Mr. *Vanstissart* himself seems desirous, by his Letter to me (Copy of which he informs me he has inclosed to you) that those Papers

should be sent, I have given my Attornies Instructions accordingly to deliver them into your Hands, to be used as to you in your Discretion shall seem meet, if he still persists in the same Way of thinking. I have the Honour to be,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

*Clive.*

To the Court of Directors.

N° 77.

Paris, 19th June 1768.

Gentlemen,

IN conformity with Mr. *Vanfittart's* Request, dated the 13th Instant, and received by the last Post, I transmit to you the Depositions of *Bollackidoff* and *Sheik Hedayat*

*Alla*, with respect to that Gentleman.

I have the Honour to be, with Respect,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, and  
Most humble Servant,  
*John Wallis.*

To the honourable the Court of Directors  
for Affairs of the United Company  
of Merchants of England trading to the  
*East Indies.*

N° 78.

*Sheik Hedayat Alla* deposeth,

THAT in the Year 1762, in the Month of December, when Mr. *Henry Vanfittart*, accompanied by several other Gentlemen, waited on the Nabob *Cassim Ally Cawn*, at *Monghyr*, he then acted in the Office of Treasurer under his Excellency; and that, in pursuance of the Nabob's Commands, he issued the Sum of Two Lacks, at Four or Five different Payments, for Mr. *Van Sittart*; and that Two Ladies, who were

in Company with the Governor, went into the Zenana, and received Jewels.

This, being a faithful Translation from the *Persian* Original, is attested this 18th Day of January, by me,

*W. H. Cove*, Sworn Translator.

The Mark + of *Sheik Hedayat Alla*,

Sworn to before me,  
*H. Verelst.*

N° 79.

The Deposition of *Bollackidoff*, Sahicar, or Banker.

IN the Year 1762, in the Month of December, Mr. *Henry Vanfittart* arrived at *Monghyr*, and had an Interview with the Nabob *Cassim Ally Cawn*: I was employed in negotiating Bills for the said Nabob One or Two Days before the Departure of Mr. *Vanfittart* for *Animebad*; his Excellency retiring with me into a private Apartment, signified to me his Pleasure, that I should transmit the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees to Mr. *Henry Vanfittart* in *Calcutta*; in Consequence of these his Excellency's Instructions, I wrote an Order to *Gurdamreloll*, my Gomastah in the Factory of *Hughly*, to pay the aforesaid Amount into the Hands of Mr. *Vanfittart*; afterwards, on the Return of this Gentleman to *Calcutta*, the Gomastah caused the Money afore-

said to be delivered to him, and gave me Information thereof, which I made report of to his Excellency the Nabob.—The strict Truth of this Transaction I have faithfully related. Written this 6th Day of *Shawban* (January) in the Eighth Year of his Majesty's auspicious Reign.

The above, being a faithful Translation from the *Persian* Original, is attested this 18th Day of January 1767, by me,

*W. H. Cove*, Sworn Translator.

The Hand Writing of *Bollackidoff*,

*Calcutta*, the 19th January 1767.

Sworn before me,  
*H. Verelst.*

N° 80.

London, 15th September 1768.

To the honourable the Court of Directors of the *East India* Company.

Honourable Sirs,

I Have received from your Secretary the Copies of Two Papers delivered to the Court by Lord *Clive*; One being a Declaration of *Bolackidoff*, setting forth,

That, a Day or Two before I took Leave of *Meer Cassim*, at *Monghyr*, he received Orders to pay me Five Lacks of Rupees; the other, an Information of *Sheik Hedayat Colla*, importing, That he, by the same Order, paid me Two Lacks of Rupees; and that the Ladies who were with me visited the Nabob's Ladies, and received a *Prasade* of Jewels.

Nobody is better acquainted with the Customs of that Country than Lord *Clive*, who has brought these Informations

Informations before the Court. I appeal to his own Candour, whether, upon Visits of this Sort, Presents are not customary, and in a Manner indispensable.

But I do not mean to recriminate upon his Lordship; much less upon any Ladies who had the Honour of being in his Company upon such Occasions. I shall content myself with defending my own Character; and shall expose to you very fairly the Principles upon which I acted at all Times in your Service.

From the earliest Date of the Company's Settlements, Presents from the People of the Country made a Part of the Benefit of your Governments; and this Advantage increased in Proportion to the Extent of your Connections, until, by a fresh Covenant, in the Year 1765, you thought fit to put a Stop to it.

In such Circumstances, I hope some Praise is due to those Servants who made the most moderate Use of the Opportunities their Situation presented to them; who preferred always the Company's Interest to their private Emolument; who never directly or indirectly sought for Presents; but, on the contrary, refused all such as could in any Manner affect or retard Payments due to the Company, or lay the Person offering it under any Distress or Inconvenience.

Let Lord Clive say if any Inhabitant of Bengal has a Complaint to make against me upon this Head, or indeed upon any other: As to *Boolakydasi* and *Sheik Hedayet Colla*, whose Names appear to the Informations laid before you by his Lordship, it will be seen that the former complains only of the Authority by which he was forced to give that Information; and as to the latter, I do not even recollect his Name; nor did I, to my Knowledge, ever transact any Business with him.

All *Meer Cuffin's* Payments were made, either by *Boolakydasi*, *Caja Petrus*, or the Roy Royan, or in Assignments payable to the Chiefs of *Paina* and *Cosimbazar*.

In these different Ways I received all that was due to the Company; I received likewise several Sums upon Account of Lord Clive, and other Gentlemen, for the remaining Part of a Present, stipulated in the Year 1757, and upon various other Accounts; but I do not remember that *Sheik Hedayet Alla* was employed upon any of these Occasions.—Soon after *Boolakydasi* had given to Lord Clive the Writing which he has laid before the Court, he wrote me a Letter to acquaint me, That, in Compliance with His Lordship's Commands, he had signed a Paper, of which he sent me a Copy.

Herewith I have transmitted the original Letter, and a Translation; and can only lament, that, at a Time when the Degrees of Censure and of Praise were measured upon the Scale of his Lordship's good Pleasure, it was my Misfortune to have him take so determined a Part against me.

But supposing for a Moment that the Informations were true to their full Extent (which, however, I do not admit) what do they import? That the Chief of the Country, having fulfilled all his Engagements with the Company, paid off the Arrears of his Predecessors' Troops, and brought his Finances into good Order, made Presents of Money and Jewels to his Friends in the customary Manner.

But it seems by your Letter to Lord Clive, of the 6th January last, that his Lordship had represented the Presents alluded to in the Informations in Question, as a Consideration given by *Meer Cuffin* for the Treaty of *Mongher*. If the Regulations contained in that Treaty had been asked or proposed by *Meer Cuffin*, or had conveyed any Benefit or Advantage to his Government, there might have been some Shew of Reason for his Lordship's unfriendly Construction; but when it is seen

that the Object of those Regulations was to give the *English* Traders a decided Right to partake in the Inland Trade upon the most moderate Terms, a Duty of 9 per Cent. upon a Trade which the Company have since rated at 40 per Cent. and that *Meer Cuffin* consented only, as he declares in many Letters, for the Sake of preserving good Harmony with the *English*; when both the Parties concerned in the Treaty regarded it as an Acquisition to the *English* Traders, and a Concession on the Part of the Nabob; in such a Case, for what should he give a Consideration? Shall he who gives up his Pretensions, give Money likewise to induce the other Party to accept his Resignation? Such a Supposition is so contrary to Reason, that the Attempt to propagate it could proceed only from the most ungenerous Design to prejudice me in your Opinion; but, I flatter myself, without Effect; for you are so far from regarding the Articles proposed at *Mongher*, as a Regulation in Favour of the Nabob, that you call it "A Treaty exacted by Force to obtain a Sanction for a Trade to enrich ourselves." The Nabob could be little inclined to give Presents for such a Consideration, it might rather have induced him to omit the usual Civilities.

I have never endeavoured, Gentlemen, to make you or the World believe that I passed through the Government of Bengal without receiving Presents, at a Time when there was no Law against it, and so many great Examples for it; but this I have said, and with the strictest Truth, that I never received One that could prejudice the Company, or distress the Country, or put back, even for a Day, any public or private Payments depending for others. Whenever any Thing of this Sort interferred, and in short, whenever the least Objection could arise, I constantly refused all Presents; and refused them absolutely and without Reservation.—It is well known, that upon this Principle I rejected all *Meer Cuffin's* Offers of Presents in the First Part of his Government. You have an Instance of this in the Consultations from Bengal, the January 1761; which, though the Sum in Question was not very large, may still serve to shew that I had a certain Rule of Conduct, in which I persevered invariably. I might otherwise have been tempted by the Offer which *Meer Jaffer* pressed on me, by Means of *Nundomar* and *Juggutbund*, just before I left Bengal.

They told me that *Meer Jaffer* insisted on my receiving a Present of Five Lacks for the Charges of my Voyage. I was not then restrained by any Orders or Covenants, but the State of the Nabob's Circumstances was sufficient, in my Opinion, to forbid it; and accordingly my Answer was, That being sensible of the many Engagements he had to fulfil, I would by no Means add to his Distress.—This Fact is mentioned by *Juggutbund* in his Examination, which is before the Court, and partly also by *Nobkissen*, who, as he knew such an Offer was made me, must also have known the Result, although he chuses to be as short as possible upon it.

Here, Gentlemen, I shall leave the Matter to your candid and impartial Consideration; persuaded, that the more you examine my Conduct, the more you will be convinced that the Love of Money was never my ruling Passion; if it had, my Opportunities were many, and I could have gratified it to as great an Extent as any of my Predecessors: I speak this without Envy or Repentment; but I really think his Lordship might have spared his Reproaches upon this Score.

I am, with Respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Henry Van Sittart.

N<sup>o</sup> 81.

Letter from *Boolakydofs* to Mr. *Vanfittart*, dated the 20th of *Shawbaun*, in the 8th Year of the Reign.

YOU are well acquainted with my Situation. Late-ly Lord *Clive* sent for me, and said, The Nabob *Coffin Ally Cawn* gave Mr. *Vanfittart* Five Lacks of Rupees through your Hands, is it not true? I answered, It is true. But in that Amount was a Bill for the Expences of Mr. *Ellis*, the Chief, of *Patna*, and there was likewise included the Price of the Jewels deposited by the Nabob *Jaffer Ally Cawn*. This was the

State of the Matter.—Lord *Clive* then said, Write, and give me a Declaration under your Hand, of Five Lacks of Rupees.—Being without Remedy, I wrote it conformably to his Order, and gave it him; and I have sent you herewith an exact Copy of it for your Perusal.—As you are my only Friend and Protector, I thought fit to acquaint you with the Matter.

N<sup>o</sup> 82.

Copy of a Letter from Lord *Clive* to *Thomas Rous*, Esquire, dated at *Madras*, the 17th April 1765.

Dear Sir,

WE arrived at this Place the 10th Instant, and shall proceed to *Bengal* next *Saturday*. The *Prince of Wales* kept us Company the greatest Part of the Way to *Ceylon*, and is by this Time, I hope, at her destined Port, all well. I must now enter with you into the Politics of *India*. The Particulars of our late Success, and now very flourishing Condition of the Company's Affairs in *Indostan*, you will have been informed at large, before this reaches you. I shall therefore only trouble you with my Sentiments, in Consequence of those Successes, and trust to your co-operating with me in carrying into Execution, and in establishing upon the most solid Basis, such Parts of my Plan as appear capable of answering what we have both to disinterestedly at Heart, the Company's Honour and Proficiency.

We have at last arrived at that critical Period, which I have long foreseen; I mean that Period which renders it necessary for us to determine, whether we can or shall take the Whole to ourselves. *Jaffer Ally Kan* is dead, and his Natural Son is a Minor; but I know not whether he is yet declared Successor. *Sujab Decola* is beat from his Dominion; we are in Possession of it, and it is scarcely Hyperbole to say, To-morrow the whole *Mogul* Empire is in our Power. The Inhabitants of the Country, we know by long Experience, have no Attachment to any Obligation; their Forces are neither disciplined, commanded, nor paid, as ours are. Can it can be doubted that a large Army of Europeans will effectually preserve us: Sovereigns, not only holding in Awe the Attempts of any Country Prince, but by rendering us to truly formidable, that no *French*, *Dutch*, or other Enemy, will presume to molest us.—You will I am sure imagine with me, that after the Length we have run, the Princes of *Indostan* must conclude our Views to be boundless; they have seen such Instances of our Ambition, that they cannot suppose us capable of Moderation. The very Nabobs whom we might support, would be either covetous of our Possessions, or jealous of our Power. Ambition, Fear, Avarice, would be daily watching to destroy us; a Victory would be but a temporary Relief to us, for the dethroning of the first Nabob would be followed by setting up another, who, upon the same Principle, would, when his Treasure

admitted of his keeping up an Army, pursue the very Path of his Predecessor. We must indeed become Nabobs ourselves in Fact, if not in Name, perhaps totally so without Disguise; but on this Subject I cannot be certain until my Arrival in *Bengal*.—Let us, and without Delay, complete our Three European Regiments to 1,000 Men each; such an Army, together with 500 Light Cavalry, Three or Four Companies of Artillery, and the Forces of the Country, will certainly render us invincible. In short, if Riches and Security are the Objects of the Company, this is the Method, the only Method, now for securing them.—Our Troops, you will hear, are at this Time above Half Way to *Delhi*, a March I highly disapprove of: I mean absolutely to bound our Possessions and Conquests to *Bengal*. Never shall the going to *Delhi* be a Plan adopted by me, if possible to be avoided; and you may depend upon my putting a Stop to it; nor should I even have thought of going such Length, if others had not rendered it necessary. I could have wished that our Operations had been carried on upon a Plan of more Moderation, and that we had not been obliged to maintain any other Military Force, than what might be sufficient to preserve and pursue our Commercial Advantages; but since our Views are extended, and since Commerce alone is not the Whole of the Company's Support, we must go forward; to retract is impossible. One Word more: Increase our Army to the Establishment above-mentioned; 20,000 Small Arms, with Gunpowder sufficient, and remember that the Light Cavalry are most necessary. The Establishment for *Madras* is sufficient, no Addition is wanted there; but *Bengal* requires your Attention. Give me Leave now to lead you for a few Moments into the Civil Department. See what an *Augean Stable* is to be cleaned. The Confusion we behold; what does it arise from? Rapacity and Luxury; the unwarrantable Desire of many to acquire in an Instant, what only a few can or ought to possess. Every Man would be rich, without the Merits of long Services; and from this incessant Competition undoubtedly springs that Disorder, to which we must apply a Remedy or be undone; for it is not only malignant but contagious. The new *Covenants* (though I do not entirely approve of their present Shape) will make a Beginning. Many of the Civil Servants will probably resign their Employments, the Court of Directors must supply the Settlement with

young Men, more moderate or less eager in their Pursuit of Wealth; and we may perhaps be reduced to the Necessity of drawing some senior Servants from the other Settlements.—It must be your Care, and I trust you will do all in your Power, to send out proper Gentlemen: Affairs seem to be coming to such a Pass, that in a little Time, there will be hardly any Person at the Council Board above the Rank or Age of a Writer. In short, the Evils, Civil and Military, are enormous, but they shall be rooted out. Whatever Odium may be thrown upon me, by the Malice or Disappointment of Individuals, I am resolved to act for the Advantage of the Company in every Respect. I have not Time here to inform you of my whole Plan of Reformation, but the Motives upon which I have founded it being no other than the public Good, you may safely exert yourself in its Support, if it should stand in need of your Assistance, which I hardly think

it can, even though Faction should be still raging. I propose no Advantage to myself—I am determined to return to *England* without having acquired one Farthing Addition to my Fortune.—Surely then I cannot possibly design any Thing but public Good.

Our Affairs are now in such a Situation as to require the Conduct of them should be managed with the utmost Secrecy, and consequently the Knowledge of them confined to few. I mention this, because I find that your Secret Committee is abolished, and I wish to hear very soon that it is re-established.

As I have written to Mr *Walsh* upon this Subject, and thought proper to use the same Precaution I have to you, I must beg you to furnish him with the Key, and likewise with a Copy of this Letter.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your obliged Friend, and humble Servant,  
(Signed) *Clive*

Nº 83.

*Madras, 17 April 1765.*

Dear *Walsh*:

Memorandum: Those Parts in Cypher, are distinguished thus “ ”

I HAVE desired Mr. *Rous* to furnish you with a Copy of my Letter to him of this Day's Date, likewise with the Cypher, that you may be enabled to understand what follows: “ The Contents are of great Importance, that I would not have them transpire. “ Whatever Money I have in the Public Funds, or “ any where else, and as much as can be borrowed in “ my Name, I desire may be, without Loss of a Minute, “ invested in *East India* Stock. You will speak to my

Attornies on this Point. Let them know I am anxious to have my Money disposed of; and press them “ to hasten the Affair as much as possible.”—If a Successor to Mr. *Palk* is not absolutely fixed upon, I beg you will exert your whole Influence with Mr. *Rous* in Favour of Mr. *Call*. I can assure you he appears to me by far the most proper Person in this Settlement to succeed to the Government; in him both the Civil and Military Qualities are united; and I need no add, that in the Recommendation of him I am biased by nothing but the Good of the Company.

I am,

Dear *Walsh*,  
Your affectionate Friend,  
*Clive*.

Nº 84.

*Fort William, the 7th May 1765.*

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable *Robert* Lord *Clive*, President,  
*William* *Brightwell* *Sumner*, Esquire,  
*Francis* *Sykes*, Esquire.

HAVING, in a Council held the 6th Instant, read and duly considered the Paragraphs of the honourable Company's General Letter, under Date the 1st June 1764, whereby the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, *William* *Brightwell* *Sumner*, Esquire, Brigadier General *John* *Carnac*, *Harry* *Perrell*, and *Francis* *Sykes*, Esquires, are appointed to constitute a Select Committee, in order to restore Peace and Tranquillity to the Company's Affairs in *Bengal*: We do now by Virtue of these Powers assemble ourselves, in the Manner enjoined by our Instructions, as the only Means which occurs to us, in the present Situation of Affairs, for obtaining the salutary End proposed.

Resolved, That the following Oath be taken by the several Members of the Select Committee:

“ I *A. B.* do swear, That I will not reveal to any  
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“ Person whatever any of the Proceedings of this Committee, until the same be laid before the Council, or “ until this Committee be dissolved.”

Agreed, That Mr. *Alexander* *Campbell* be appointed Secretary, Mr. *Edward* *Barber* Sub-secretary, and Mr. *William* *Rooke*, Assistant, to the Committee; and that the following Oath of Secrecy be administered to them:

“ I *A. B.* do swear to be true and faithful to the Trust “ reposed in me by the Select Committee, and to reveal “ to no Person whatever the Proceedings of that Department, until the same are laid before the Council.”

The Right honourable the President having delivered a Letter, containing a full Declaration of his Lordship's own Intentions, and his Sense of the particular Duty of the Select Committee;

Ordered, That the same be here entered.

The Right honourable the President's Letter to Committee.

Gentlemen,  
Little did I imagine, when I resigned this Government Five Years ago, that I should ever enter upon it again;  
5 L  
nor

nor are you ignorant that my present Circumstances and Situation of Life render such an Appointment on my Part by no Means an Object either of Necessity or Choice; but the late distracted State of Affairs in these Parts having alarmed the Proprietors of Stock, their mutual Interests necessarily became the serious Consideration, not only of the Court of Directors, but also of several General Courts; and at one of the most numerous of those, it was proposed, that I should be desired to resume the Government of Bengal; a Motion which was warmly seconded, and approved of by every Member present: Thus solicited by the unanimous Voice of the Proprietors, thus flattered with the Opinion they had conceived of my Abilities to settle their Affairs upon a solid Plan, my Zeal for the Service took Place of every private Consideration; and I accepted the Appointment upon such Conditions as I judged expedient for the public Good.

The Success of the Forces I had the Honour to command in the Year 1767, completed a Revolution in Favour of *Meer Jaffer*; an Event on which the Existence of the *East India Company* at that Time absolutely depended, and which afforded the fairest Prospect of future Tranquillity to this Country: The Treaty concluded with him was productive of large Advantages to the Nation, as well as to Individuals, and seemed to insure to the Company the Benefits of Commerce in a much wider Extent than they had heretofore enjoyed.

My Successors, soon after my Departure, thought proper to raise *Cassim Ali Cawn* to the Subaship; doubtless, because he thought such a Step necessary; the Consequences however, from whatever Cause, were unfortunate: But let us draw a Veil over those distant Transactions; let us consider only the present State of the Politics and Commerce; and let our whole Attention be employed in establishing the Company's Affairs upon a firm and lasting Foundation:—Nor do I in the least despair of seeing this important Business accomplished, since I have the peculiar Happiness of finding myself assisted by a Committee of known Abilities and incorruptible Integrity. If at any Time we should happen to differ in Opinion, we shall differ like Gentlemen, with Temper and cool Reasoning. The Minutes of our Consultations will not, I trust, be prolonged by Disension, nor disgraced with the Prejudice of Faction; we will endeavour to be unanimous.

A very few Days are elapsed since our Arrival; and yet, if we consider what has already come to our Knowledge, we cannot hesitate a Moment upon the Necessity of assuming the Power that is in us of conducting, as a Select Committee, the Affairs both Civil and Military of this Settlement: What do we hear of, what we do see, but Anarchy, Confusion, and, what is worse, an almost general Corruption. To remedy, or at least to prevent, these Evils in future, is a Duty incumbent upon this Committee, which we owe to that Company we have engaged to serve, and a Duty which we owe to ourselves, if the Pleas of Honour, Reputation, and Conscience, are worthy your Attention. Happy, I am sure you would have been, as well as myself, had the late Conduct of Affairs been so irreproachable as to have permitted them still to continue in the Hands of the Governor and Council; a very transient View however of what has passed since *Meer Jaffer's* Death will convince us, that the great Point of Reformation we aim at cannot be attained through that Channel.—The Committee therefore, in my Opinion, must immediately act: A measure so necessary, that I conclude you can have no Objection to it. For my own Part, I will venture to assert, that the critical Situation of the Company renders it absolutely indispensable, for the speedy settling of their Affairs, that the Power should be vested in the Hands of a few; and give me Leave further to add, that, unless the Spirit of their Orders in that Respect be pursued, it is but too evident that the general Sense of the Proprietors, when they honoured me with their Solicitation to accept of

this Government, will be baffled and delayed, if not totally eluded, by their Servants.

To establish a Country Government, to secure the Commercial Interest, and to perpetuate the Revenues of the Company; to form the Military and to amend the Civil Departments; these will be the Objects of our serious Attention. By this Committee I shall hope to see these important Matters completely regulated, before I resign the Government; and you know that my Intention is to remain in it no longer than my Assistance may be thought necessary towards accomplishing these great and salutary Purposes.

I shall now only repeat what you have often heard me declare, That I totally disclaim any Emolument to myself; I will not add to my Fortune one single Rupee, by the Opportunities I might have as Governor; on the other Hand, be assured that every Advantage to others, consistent with my Idea of the Company's Honour and Interest, shall be promoted to the utmost of my Power here, and of my Influence at Home.

To this Letter from the Right honourable the President, Messrs. *Sumner* and *Sykes* agreed to deliver in an Answer at the next Meeting of the Committee.

After duly considering the honourable Company's Instructions, in their General Letter of the 1st of June 1764, relative to the Covenants; it is the Opinion of the Committee they ought immediately to be executed in the Form prescribed, by such Members of the Council, and other Servants of the Company, as have not already signed this Obligation.

Agreed, That the Abstracts of such Proceedings of the Select Committee, as may be deemed of material Consequence, be transmitted to Brigadier General *Carnac*; and that the above Oath, administered to the Members of the Committee now present, be also tendered to him by the Company's senior Servant on the Spot.—Also, That we acquaint him of our having formed ourselves into a Select Committee, agreeably to the Company's Instructions, and require that he correspond with us accordingly.

Agreed, That an Office, with every Necessary for the Secretary's Department, be immediately provided.

Agreed also, That Mr. *Verelst* be advised of the Meeting of the Select Committee, and his immediate Attendance required.

Having read a Letter from General *Carnac*, under Date the 21st of April, the Select Committee resolve to write him an Answer; the same to be entered after the Proceedings.

Clive,  
W. B. Sumner,  
Francis Sykes.

7th May 1765.

To Brigadier General *John Carnac*, Commander in Chief of the Army.

S I R,

Agreeably to the Instructions of the honourable Company, specified in several Paragraphs of their General Letter, we have this Day assumed the Powers of a Select Committee, with which we are vested; and as a constant Intercourse with you, as a Member of this Committee, will be expedient to the public Service, we expect you will favour us with a Communication of every Occurrence that may relate more immediately to this Department.

Copies of the Paragraphs referred to, and of the Oath administered to the Members of the Committee now present, will be transmitted to you; and it is our Desire that you receive the Oath from the Company's Servant on the Spot, in order that our Correspondence may be without Reserve.

Your Letter of the 21st of April, addressed to the President and Council, is come to our Hands; but, as we have



have not yet found Leisure to obtain sufficient Information respecting the Points you mention, we submit the necessary Measures to be pursued to your own Discretion, sensible that your Zeal for the public Interest, and the Honour of the Select Committee, will enable you to give entire Satisfaction to,

Sir,  
Your most humble Servants.

Fort William,  
the 7th May 1765.

Fort William, 11 May 1765.

At a Select Committee,  
P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,  
W. B. Sumner, Esquire,  
Francis Sykes, Esquire.

The Select Committee, observing, with Regret, the Contempt shewn for the positive and repeated Orders of the Governor and Council, recalling free Merchants residing up the Country,

Resolved, That the former Orders on that Head be now enforced; and Letters dispatched to the Chiefs of the several Subordinates, requiring them, at the Expiration of One Month after Notice given, to convey in Safety to Calcutta all who refuse to comply with a Measure so salutary to the Company, and necessary to the Peace and good Order of the Country.

Being informed also, that a great Number of Europeans, Stragglers from Ships, and others, who have no Claim from Indentures to any Share of the Company's Countenance or Protection, are variously employed up the Country, and dispersed all over the Nabob's Dominions, to the great Prejudice of the Company, and Molestation of the Nabob;

Resolved, They be immediately secured, and brought to Calcutta.

The Committee finding some Difficulty in procuring an exact Account of the Names of such Europeans;

Agreed, That the Chiefs of the subordinate Factories be made acquainted with the Resolutions of the Committee, and required to transmit, without Delay, the most accurate Lists in their Power of all Europeans not immediately in the Company's Service, who reside in or about their respective Districts.

The Secretary representing that another Assistant will occasionally be wanted for the Dispatch of Business;

Agreed, That Mr. William Wynne be employed as a Monthly Writer, after taking the Oath of Secrecy.

Messieurs Sumner and Sykes deliver in their Answer to the President's Letter, entered in the Proceedings of the 7th Instant.

Ordered, It be entered.

Agreed, We acquaint General Carnac of the several Detachments on their Way to Panna, either to join him, or to form an Army of Observation, as Circumstances may require; and that we desire he will not suffer the public Dispatches to be retarded by private Letters.

Ordered, The same be entered after the Proceedings.

Clive,  
W. B. Sumner,  
Francis Sykes.

11th May 1765.

To the Right honourable Robert Lord Clive, President of the Select Committee.

My Lord,

The Situation of the Company's Affairs, which have been described, and the Measures proposed by your Lordship for retrieving them, are perfectly agreeable to

our Sentiments: We are sensible of the Difficulty of establishing Order and Tranquillity, where Anarchy and Confusion have so long prevailed; but the Experience we have of your Lordship's great Abilities, the Steadiness with which we have seen you encounter Danger and Difficulty, and the Regard we are sensible you have for your own Honour, and the Interest of the Company, encourage us to hope for the most fortunate Issue to the Proceedings of the Select Committee. The Sentiments which your Lordship is pleased to entertain of our Attachment to you, and to the Interest of our Employers, are just; we will, my Lord, express ourselves with Freedom on every Subject that regards the Public; but we can never be wanting in Temper and Decency, where we entertain so much Respect. We are urged, my Lord, by the most powerful Motives to that Unanimity which you recommend. The present unhappy Situation of the Company's Affairs arises more from the Difficulties, than the Incapacity, of those Gentlemen into whose Hands your Lordship resigned the Government; it will be our Ambition to approve ourselves deserving of the Trust reposed in us by the Company, to assist your Lordship with our utmost Abilities, to fulfil the Hopes conceived from your Prudence and Capacity, and to enable you to return, as you ardently wish, to your native Country, with the Satisfaction of having baffled the Malice of Faction, rendered Commerce flourishing, and Peace permanent, and the peculiar Honour of raising the Company's Affairs in Bengal a Second Time, from that desperate State into which they were sunk, through the Luxury and Corruption that prevailed among their Servants.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Fort William, most obedient and  
the 8th May 1765. most humble Servants.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Since we wrote to you on the 7th Instant, we are advised by private Letters, that Nadief Cawn has surrendered himself to the Marattas; which Advices are confirmed in a Letter dated the 1st Instant, from the Chief at Banaras: We wish that Intelligence of such Consequence had been communicated by yourself, but we imagine your Silence on this Head may be owing to your particular Situation, which will not admit of procuring any certain Information.

It is the Request of the Select Committee, that henceforward all Advices of any Consequence, which come to your Knowledge, may be sent alone, and not retarded by private Letters; since it has frequently happened, by this Means, that Matters of the last Importance have been known by every Inhabitant of Calcutta before they reached the Board.

The Detachment lately sent under Captain Muir, that under Major Champion, and these Troops, were under Orders to march from Ghyraty, will form a Body of Six hundred Men, Rank and File: With these different Reinforcements we imagine you will be able to form a Second Army, which may be stationed either at Panna, or on the Carumnassa, as you will think expedient.

Our Reasons for mentioning this, proceed from our Apprehensions, lest a Part of the Enemy's numerous Army should invade the Province of Bahar, which would reduce you to the Necessity, either of retreating or detaching; both of which we would, if possible, avoid in our present Circumstances.

We hope you have formed sufficient Magazines of Provisions to enable you to keep Shyab Dowlah at Bay, until the Rains are well set in; should there be a Deniency of these, the Consequence is easily foreseen; for as

to his making an Impression on so formidable an Army as you now command, we are under no Apprehensions.

The Field Officers, and others on Duty, are under Orders for marching up the Country; and should a separate Corps be judged necessary, Colonel Smith, and the Field Officers under him, will of course have the Command; the rest will join you with all possible Expedition. However, as we can entertain no Doubt of your Zeal for the Service, we will leave it to your Prudence and Discretion to act as Circumstances may require, since we at this Distance cannot possibly be Judges of the Exigence of Affairs.

Fort William,  
the 11th May 1765.

We are,  
Sir,  
Your most humble Servants.

1st June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,  
W. B. Sumner,  
Harry Verelst,  
Francis Sykes, Esquires.

The Oath of Secrecy being administered to Mr. Verelst, that Gentleman took his Seat at the Committee, agreeable to the honourable Company's Appointment.

His Excellency the Nabob having, immediately on his Arrival in Calcutta, and previous to any Enquiries into his Situation, delivered a Letter to the Right honourable the President, addressed to his Lordship, and the Gentlemen of the Committee;

Agreed, That a Translation of the above Letter be read, and the same entered after the Proceedings.

The Facts advanced in this Letter, and other Circumstances which have this Day appeared before them, being maturely weighed and considered, the Committee are of Opinion, that *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, since the Death of the late Nabob, has distributed among certain Persons near Twenty Lacks of Rupees;

And that it is incumbent upon them to discover to whom such Sums have been paid, and for what Consideration, in Order that the most effectual Measures may be pursued, to remedy for the present, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous Consequences which may have arisen, or which may arise, not only to the Country Government, but likewise to the Company, from such Practices.

Since our last Meeting, we have received Six Letters from General Carnac, dated the 28th and 30th of April, the 2d, 3d, 7th, and 14th ult. The first acquainting us, that, in Consequence of Advice that *Sija Dowla*, with *Caz Dyn Cawn*, was on his Way to *Korah*, to join *Mulbar*, who is there with the *Morattoes*, he had crossed the *Ganges*; likewise, that Captain *Graham* had had a smart Skirmish with a disaffected Zemindar, wherein the latter, with a considerable Number of his Men, was killed; and that we had sustained a material Loss, in one *Sarbeg*, Leader of our few *Persian* Horse, who died of his Wounds. The Second informs us, that Sir *Robert Fletcher* had left under an Arrest, at *Ilababad*, Captains *William Smyth* and *McKenzie*, and Lieutenant *Harpur*; and incloses Copies of the Charges delivered in by Sir *Robert* against them; further, that unless the Enemy fall back, we may expect soon to hear of a Battle. The Third is found to contain an Account of *Nudjuf Cawn's* Return, with 600 or 700 Horse, and the greatest Part of the Two Companies of *Seapoys* that went with him, together with the general Sentiments thereon. The Fourth advises us of his having routed the Enemy; and the Fifth of his having removed the Army to *Jojeeman*, on the

Banks of the *Ganges*, on Account of Intelligence received, that *Sijab Dowla* and the *Morattoes* had separated; that the latter were crossing the *Jumna*; and that *Sijab Dowla* was returning to *Trierneebabad*, the Capital of *Akinud* (*Chan's* Bungulh) Possessions. The Sixth contains a particular Reply to a Letter addressed to him, dated the 8th of April, and incloses a Letter from his Majesty.

Received a Letter from Mr. *Marriott*, dated the 1st May, advising, that *Nudjuf Cawn* had surrendered to the *Morattoes*, and that Sir *Robert Fletcher* had gained the Banks of the *Ganges*; also, that he had deferred his proposed Journey to *Ilababad*, as Captain *Dow* expected that Place would in a few Days be invested by the Enemy.

To the above-mentioned Letter the Secretary was ordered to reply, requesting that Mr. *Marriott* would in future transmit the earliest Advices in his Power.

Received a Letter from *Fort Saint George*, dated the 20th, advising of their being obliged to land 48 Recruits from the *Kent*, in order to do Duty at their Garrisons, which have been drained to oppose the Approach of *Nizun Ay*, who had already entered the Province of *Dalmarchery*.

Received a Letter from *Dacca*, dated the 30th ult. acknowledging the Receipt of our Orders of the 15th of May, for recalling European Agents, and promising all due Obedience thereto. And,

Another from Mr. *Hugh Watts*, Resident at *Midnapoor*, to the same Effect.

Colonel *Smith* sends in a Letter, acquainting us, that he is prevented from setting out for *Patna* as soon as he intended, by an unfortunate Accident (a very severe Fall from his Horse) which obliges him to keep his Chamber.

Received a Letter from the Chief and Council at *Banaras*, wherein they acknowledge to have received our Secretary's Letter of the 12th Instant, to Mr. *Marriott*; and inform us, that, for Two Days past, no Advices had been received from Camp; that Captain *Gallez* had a slight Skirmish; and that his Majesty had marched from *Ilababad*, to receive the Submissions of several *Roubillab* Chiefs, who are willing to acknowledge him.

The following Letters were likewise dispatched by the Committee since their last Meeting.

On the 14th ult. we wrote to General *Carnac*, acknowledging the Receipt of his Letters of the 28th and 30th April, commending his Diligence in effecting a Junction with Sir *Robert Fletcher*, under such difficult Circumstances; and advising, that the Select Committee postponed any Resolution in respect to Captain *McPherson's* Promotion till further Enquiry, and submitted Captain *Smyth's* Conduct to the Judgment of a Court Martial.

On the 15th ult. Orders were dispatched to the Subordinates to recall all Free Merchants.

On the 18th ult. a Letter was dispatched to General *Carnac*, in Answer to his of the 3d; congratulating him on his Success over the Enemy, and advising him of the strong Reinforcements on their Way to join him.

On the 24th ult. Orders were issued for Colonel *Smyth* to take the Command of the Detachments proceeding to *Patna*, where he was to be governed by General *Carnac's* Instructions.

Colonel *Smith* having sent in a Letter, acquainting the Committee, that he was much indisposed, in Consequence of a Fall from his Horse, Orders were issued the 29th ult. to Sir *Robert Barker*, to succeed to the Command of the Detachments till Colonel *Smith's* Recovery.

On the 30th ult. General *Carnac's* Letters of the 2d and 14th were answered, the Asperity of his Style to the Board considered, and Directions given to take no Resolutions

Resolutions respecting *Nudjuf Cawn*, till Lord *Clive's* Arrival in Camp.

*Clive,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner;*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Franc Sykes.*

Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nabob *Najim-o-Dowlah* to the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President, &c.

Gentlemen of the Select Committee;

The Situation which I am now in will not permit me to acquaint you with all the Circumstances which have happened; but I will make Part thereof known to you, which is as follows:

My Father, leaving *Calcutta*, arrived at *Moorshedabad*, where he continued in perfect Health for some Time; after which he fell sick, and finding his Disorder increasing every Day, and growing irrecoverable, he delivered me a Paper of Advice, and on the 7th Day of *Shawban*, he was pleased to deliver to me the *Kelaut* received from the King, and several other Presents. He recommended *Mah Rajah Nundomar* to my Notice; and ordered him to send for *Mr. Middleton*, and the other *English* Gentlemen, *Mahomed Irrick Cawn*, &c. Friends, and all the Servants belonging to the *Nizamut* (or Government) and before them to set *Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah* in his Place, and on the *Nizamut* *Musfinaud*; and to order the People in general to give *Nuzers* of Congratulation, and also to make them strictly know that they must obey *Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah* in every Respect as they did him, and be always ready at his Command. According to the above Orders of my deceased Father, the above-named *Mah Rajah* has fully performed; and I myself being willing and desirous to execute the Business laid to my Trust. On the 14th of the aforesaid Month, my Father departed this Life; after the usual Solemnization of his Funeral, I have comforted and enlivened the People in general, and began to manage the Affairs, and ordered a Proclamation to be made throughout the City, and Messrs. *Middleton* and *Gray*, and all the *Nizamut* Servants, came and presented *Nuzers*.

Through the Will of God, all the Business is carried on in the same good Manner as before.

Six Days afterwards, *Mr. Middleton* came and acquainted me, that Two of the Counsellors were coming up from *Calcutta* for my Comfort. This Deputation, I certainly thought, was coming for my Benefit and Welfare: The Day Messrs. *Johnstone* and *Leycester* arrived at *Cossimbuzar*, I sent *Mah Rajah Nundomar Babadre* to meet them. *Mr. Johnstone* was somewhat displeased with the said *Mah Rajah* before, about the *Pergunnah Tumalook*, therefore, his meeting these Gentlemen was not agreeable to *Mr. Johnstone*.—The next Day the above Gentlemen, &c. came to me; I was confident that these my Friends and Well-wishers would have done me the Compliments of Condolence, and comfort me; but they did not to me the least Thing of this Kind: Instead whereof, they began to incumber me with many troublesome Things, and at the same Time they sent out all the People that were present, together with my Brother *Nabob Syfud Dowlah*, and then they told me to send for *Mahomed Reza Cawn* from *Dacca*, and set him as *Naib* of the *Nizamut*. This troubled me much; and they told me also, that till *Maer Mahomed Reza Cawn* arrived from *Dacca*, and till he was set up as *Naib* of the *Nizamut*, I must not sit in the *Dewan* *Connah*, and that I must live in the same Place where I was, and put a Stop to all public Business.

The above-named *Reza Cawn* has had long ago evil Intentions on the *Nizamut*; my Father, therefore, deemed him always as his Enemy; and besides, there is a

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large Sum of Money due from him to the *Sircar*. For these Reasons, I thought proper not to acquiesce to any of the above Proposals which were made to me. I told them to peruse the Paper of Advice of my deceased Father; and see how it directs, and which I shall readily follow. In Answer to this, they replied, That your Paper of Advice was of no Force or Virtue; and every Thing must be done as we think proper.

In this Manner they have vexed me, by sitting almost every Day from the first of their Arrival to their Departure.

They presented me with a Paper, and requested I would sign it. This Paper was that which they brought with them, and insisted on me to comply with their Request. I sent for *Maer Mahomed Irrick Cawn*, *Mah Rajah Nundomar Babadre*, &c.; The first acquainted the Gentlemen, that whatever Paper they wanted to be signed, they would have no Difficulty in it; at the same Time it was proper for all of them to peruse it first: Messrs. *Johnstone* and *Leycester*, being much displeased at this, asked, in a very angry Manner, Who they were that wanted to peruse the Paper? After this, *Mounshy Sudoler Oo Dy*, who was near my Presence, told me to bring the former Treaty, and compare that with this, and then to sign it.

At this *Mr. Johnstone* turned out the *Mounshy*; and they told me, that if in Case I did not set up *Mahomed Reza Cawn* in his *Naibship*, and immediately sign the Paper, I should have no great Chance of being in the Possession of the *Subadary*, and then I should be extremely sorry for it. When I saw him pressing me so eagerly, and in an unfriendly Manner, I thought proper to sign and deliver the Paper to them, and they carried it away.

After this *Mahomed Reza Cawn* arrived, and sat as *Naib*. He, for the better securing his *Naibship*, above Twenty Laaks of *Ruppes* (in Money and Goods) out of my Treasury, has distributed among such People as he thought proper, and this without my Knowledge. Besides, there is a Balance due from the above-mentioned *Cawn* of about 20 Laaks of *Ruppes* on Account of *Dacca Syllat Rojshanabad*, of which he does not chuse to pay a single Coury. The above-said *Mahomed Reza Cawn* made *Mr. Johnstone* his Protector, and *Mr. Leycester* his Vakeel, and made *Rajah Dullairam* his Fellow Partner, and took from the *Mounshees*, *Mochulca* Papers under their Hands: He keeps my Seal under his own Seal, and there is nothing to be done with my Will or Order. Titles, Employments, *Kelauts*, Elephants, Horses, and Jewel, are granted and distributed to others as he pleases.

*Mah Rajah Nundomar*, my intimate Well-wisher, when he has Occasion to ask any Question, they answer him in the Negative, and with this Displeasure; while this Man continues in the Service, they cannot impose upon me any extraordinary Charges. They, for the Sake of their own Profits, have censured him with an old Accusation, which was long ago strictly examined by General *Curnac*, who acquitted him of it; and now they maliciously accuse him again; and by this Means they sent him down to *Calcutta* with a Guard of *Scapys*.

There is a Balance due to the *Sircar*, from the *Selladars*, of Fifteen Laaks of *Ruppes*, and now new Employments are granted to them, and the Lands divided into several Divisions.

*Calytha*, *Jaghreer*, &c. Rents were duly collected all the Time, while the above-named *Mah Rajah* had the Management. They have disposed of the present Year's Rents and *Pyouns* as they pleased. When I intended going down to *Calcutta*, I was much distressed for Money for paying my Servants Wages, and other current Expences.

*Mr. Johnstone's* bad Treatment to me after my Father's Death, and *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Station, are to me as if I was Day and Night in a Flame; but the

News that his Lordship was coming to this Place has relieved me of my Anxieties. At last God Almighty was pleased to hasten his Lordship's Arrival at this Place: This has put into me fresh Life and Vigour. Now I beg your Lordship, &c. as my Protector and sincere Friend, to put my Affairs, which were ruined by these People, on a proper Footing, as they were in my Father's Time. In doing this I shall think myself happy.

N. B. The following Lines are written in the Nabob's own Hand.

Gentlemen,  
I have wrote my Sentiments in the above Lines as brief as possible, and beg you will hear my Petition.

Fort William, the 5th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,  
The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,  
W. B. Sumner, } Esquires.  
Harry Vereſt, }  
Francis Sykes, }

Read, approved, and signed the Proceedings of the 1st Instant.

Taking into Consideration the many Attempts which have been made to destroy the Unanimity and corrupt the Integrity of the Members of the Committee, both separately and jointly, by the Nabob, through *Nundomar's* Influence, and other ill-disposed Persons who were admitted into his Preference;

Resolved, That all Intercourse with the Nabob, his Ministers, and Country Powers, be maintained and conducted by the Right honourable the President, as the most effectual Method to convince those ill-disposed Persons, that no Motives of private Advantage, no Desire of increasing their Fortunes, can ever seduce the Members of this Board from the Duty they owe to themselves, the Confidence they repose in each other, or the steady Resolution they have formed to pursue every Method that tends to promote the Company's Interest, and the Peace, Prosperity, and Happiness of the Country. And the President observing how necessary it will become, for the Security of his own Reputation, and the Rights of the Committee, that all his Transactions with the Nabob, &c. should be confirmed with the Sanction of this Board;

Agreed, That his Lordship be required to lay his Correspondence, from Time to Time, before the Committee, and to communicate to them every Measure of Importance before it be carried into Execution.

Several Papers, written in the *Persian* Language, being offered to the Consideration of the Committee;

Agreed, That Mr. *George Vassitt* be employed to translate them into *English*, after taking the following Oath of Secrecy:

"I A. B. do swear to be true and faithful to the Trust reposed in me by the Select Committee, and to reveal to no Person whatever, such Parts of the Proceedings of that Department as shall be communicated to me."

Received a Letter, dated the 13th ult. from Mr. *William Malby*, requesting we will grant him a further Indulgence of Time, than that specified in the Order for re-calling Free Merchants.

Agreed, That Four Months be allowed him, from the 1st Instant; and that the Secretary acquaint him with this our Resolution.

Received a Letter from the President and Council at *Bombay*, dated the 13th April, congratulating us on our Success against *Sibje Dowlab*, and requesting their Detachment may be sent back immediately.

Agreed, We write in Answer, That our present Cir-

cumstances will not possibly admit of our complying with their Request.

Received a Letter from the Chief and Council at *Banaras*, dated the 25th ult. acquainting us of the Motions and Dispositions of the Army.

Clive,  
W. B. Sumner,  
H. Vereſt,  
Francis Sykes.

Fort William, 6th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,  
The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,  
W. B. Sumner, } Esquires.  
Harry Vereſt, }  
Francis Sykes, }

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of Yesterday.

In Consequence of a Minute entered in our Proceedings of the 1st Instant, and since laid before the Council, we have made the Enquiries therein specified, and received the following attested Accounts from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Sees*.

Agreed, The above-mentioned Accounts be entered after the Proceedings of this Day.

Agreed, likewise, That a Council be called by the Right honourable the President, in order to lay before the Board Evidences of so much Consequence; and that Mr. *Johnstone's* Presence be requested.

The Select Committee think it necessary to observe, that the following Circumstance might be added; "When the Gentlemen demanded an Acknowledgement from me, I asked, Is not this to be a general Affair, and are not the other Gentlemen to have a Share?" &c. To which they replied, "No, this must be for us: Let them look to themselves."

Received a Letter from General *Carnac*, dated the 21st ult. advising that he had entered the Province of *Agra*, after several fatiguing Marches.

Received a Letter from *Islamabad*, dated the 28th ult. and another from *Patna* of the 29th, in Answer to our Orders for re-calling Free Merchants.

Colonel *Smith* sends in a Letter, acquainting us of his Recovery, and Resolution to set out for *Paina* as soon as he can be supplied with Boats.

Clive,  
W. B. Sumner,  
H. Vereſt,  
Francis Sykes.

Narrative of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

The Circumstances of the Gentlemen of Council's Application for Presents from the Nabob, as hereafter specified, are as follows: After his Excellency had been seated on the Musnud, the General of Council first of all sent a Message by *Mootram*, and afterwards themselves said to me, The Gentlemen who have assisted former Nazims have obtained Presents; now that we have seated his Excellency on the Musnud, and rendered him Service, we hope that he will make Presents to us also: Do you represent this to his Excellency: I answered, "Do you, Gentlemen, yourselves mention it?" At length, as they were earnest with me, and I perceived they would be offended at my Refusal, I represented it to his Excellency, in Conformity to their Desire: His Excellency said to me, It must be done, do you make out a List, and bring it me: I replied, "Your Excellency is the Master; yourself determine upon whatever may be your Pleasure." Accordingly an Account of the Presents for the Gentlemen was made out before the Nabob's Face, and given under his Hand and

and Seal to Mr. *Johnstone*, in the Presence of all the Four Gentlemen; after Three or Four Days, Mr. *Johnstone* carried this Paper to the Nabob, and said, "If your Excellency has given this Paper unwillingly, and contrary to your Inclination, we do not want it." His Excellency answered, "I have given it to you of my own Pleasure and Inclination." After this Conversation had passed, Mr. *Johnstone* said, "What shall we do with a bare Paper? Let Orders be given to *Mahomed Reza* for the Payment of the Money;" his Excellency accordingly commanded me to pay the Money, agreeably to the Paper: I made some Days Delay, and upon Mr. *Johnstone* and the other Gentlemen making again a Demand upon me, I presented the following *Ferd-Sevaul* \* to his Excellency, with Regard to giving the Money for the Gentlemen's

Presents; whatsoever is your Excellency's Pleasure, his Excellency signed thereon, "Let *Mahomed Reza* *Cawn Babadre* pay it." Accordingly, from the 20th of *Shervaul*, of the 1178 Year of the *Hegyra*, to the 10th † of *Zecadal* inclusive, 875,000 Rupees were given to Nine Gentlemen, 250,000 by Four Bills upon the House of the *Setts*, the Date of the Payment whereof will appear from their Books; and the remaining 625,000 in ready Money from the Treasury; the Date of the Payment of which shall be particularly specified upon the Arrival of *Jumma Kerch* Papers from *Moorabad*.

A true Translation.

*George Vanfittart,*

*Persian Translator.*

6th June 1765

Fort William, the 6th June 1765.

ACCOUNT of Presents from the Nabob.

	Received.	Due.	Total.
Mr. <i>Spencer</i> received, by a Bill on the <i>Sett's</i> House, dated the 7 † of <i>Zecadal</i> of the 1178 Year of the <i>Hegyra</i> — — — —	100,000	100,000	200,000
Mr. <i>Playdell</i> received — D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> — — — —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Burdett</i> received — D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> — — — —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Gray</i> received — D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> — — — —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> received by <i>Mootyram</i> , in ready Money from the Treasury, from the 20 † <i>Shervaul</i> of the 1178th Year of the <i>Hegyra</i> , to the 10th of <i>Zecadal</i> , inclusive — — — —	237,500	—	237,500
Mr. <i>Middleton</i> received, by <i>Santayram Sing</i> his <i>Muttasud</i> , in ready Money from the Treasury, D <sup>r</sup> Date — — — —	112,500	—	112,500
Mr. <i>Senior</i> received, by his Man <i>Moonshy Rambullab</i> , in ready Money from the Treasury, D <sup>r</sup> Date — — — —	112,500	—	112,500
Mr. <i>Leycester</i> received — D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> — D <sup>r</sup> — — — —	112,500	—	112,500
Mr. <i>Johnstone's</i> younger Brother received, by <i>Mootyram</i> , in ready Money from the Treasury, D <sup>r</sup> Date — — — —	50,000	—	50,000
Mr. <i>Cartier</i> , by Means of Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> , a Bond was given to this Purport, that Representation should be made to the Nabob, and the Money caufed to be given — — — —	—	100,000	100,000
Total	875,000	350,000	1,225,000

A true Translation.

*George Vanfittart,*

*Persian Translator.*

With regard to the Presents which I made to the Gentlemen of Council, the State of the Affair is this: Mr. *Johnstone* sent me a Message by *Mootyram*, as follows: Whereas you have been appointed his Excellency's Naib, it is proper that you make us some Present from yourself. I represented my Situation, that I would

do what was in my Power, but that I could not furnish any very great Matter. In the End, the Sum of 475,000 Rupees was agreed upon, of which I have paid 225,000, and 250,000 remain due, according to the underwritten Particulars.

\* A Paper of Enquiry, Petition, or Representation.  
† 12 April to 1 May, inclusive.

† 12 April 1765.

† 28th April 1765.

Fort William, the 6th June 1765.

## ACCOUNT of the Presents from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

	Received.	Due.	Total.
Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> received, by Two Bills on the House of <i>Mootybund</i> , at <i>Burdwan</i> , payable to <i>Mootyram</i> , dated the 13 <sup>th</sup> of <i>Rumzaun</i> of the 6 Year — 50,000			
Received, by a Bill on the House of <i>Juggut Seet</i> , at <i>Hooghly</i> , payable to <i>Mootyram</i> , dated the 14th of <i>Rumzaun</i> — 50,000			
	100,000	50,000	150,000
Mr. <i>Leycester</i> received a Bill on <i>Juggut Seet's</i> House at <i>Hooghly</i> , payable to <i>Mootyram</i> , dated the 13th of <i>Rumzaun</i> of the 6th Year — 50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Senior</i> received, in ready Money, from the 19th of <i>Zeceda</i> of the 6th Year, to the 25 D <sup>o</sup> — 50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Middleton</i> — — — — — 100,000		100,000	100,000
Mr. <i>Johnstone's</i> younger Brother received, by a Bill on <i>Oodysbund's</i> House at <i>Hooghly</i> , payable to <i>Mootyram</i> , dated the 21 <sup>st</sup> of <i>Rumzaun</i> of the 6th Year — 25,000		25,000	25,000
Total for Mr. <i>Johnstone</i> and Co. — 225,000	225,000	250,000	475,000
Mr. <i>Spencer</i> . There was not any Agreement made with him; but formerly, and now, I have given him Presents according to the underwritten Particulars; viz.			
In the Time of the late Nabob, when I came to <i>Moorshedabad</i> about the Affairs of <i>Dacca</i> , I sent from <i>Moorshedabad</i> — 20,000			
From <i>Dacca</i> — 20,000			
After my Appointment to the Nabob, I gave, by a Bill on <i>Juggut Seet's</i> House, payable to <i>Ramage Paul</i> , dated the 12th of <i>Rumzaun</i> 50,000			
	90,000		90,000
Total 315,000	315,000	250,000	565,000

A true Translation.

George Vanhittart,  
Persian Translator;

\* 6 March 1765.

† 7 March 1765.

P R E S E N T S received by the under-mentioned Gentlemen from the Nibob Mahomed Reza Carn, and Jagut Sast.

Names of the Gentlemen.	From whom preferred.		Sums total preferred.	How received.					Total Received.	Remain- ing to be paid.
	The Nibob.	Mahomed Reza Carn.	Jagut Sast.	By Bills on Jagut Sast.	By Bills on Muzichand at Masaderad.	By Bills on - - - at Dacca.	By Bills on Outchand Baidoo.	In Cash.		
Mr. Spencer	2,00,000	90,000	—	1,50,000	20,000	20,000	—	—	1,90,000	1,00,000
Mr. Playdell	1,00,000	—	—	50,000	—	—	—	—	50,000	50,000
Mr. Barlett	1,00,000	—	—	50,000	—	—	—	—	50,000	50,000
Mr. Gray	1,00,000	—	—	50,000	—	—	—	—	50,000	50,000
Mr. Jamilant	2,37,500	1,50,000	—	50,000	50,000	—	—	2,37,500	3,37,500	50,000
Mr. Senior	1,12,500	1,00,000	—	—	—	—	—	1,12,500	1,62,500	50,000
Mr. Leycester	1,12,500	1,00,000	—	50,000	—	—	—	1,12,500	1,62,500	50,000
Mr. Middleton	1,12,500	1,00,000	—	—	—	—	—	1,12,500	1,62,500	50,000
Mr. Jubbons's younger Brother	50,000	25,000	10,000	—	—	—	25,000	60,000	85,000	1,00,000
Medicars Jubbons, Leycester, &c.	—	—	1,15,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	75,000
Mr. Carter	1,00,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	40,000	40,000	1,00,000
Totals	14,25,000	5,65,000	1,45,000	4,00,000	70,000	20,000	25,000	7,25,000	12,40,000	6,75,000

Narrative of *Juggut Seet*.

When Mr. *Johnstone*, and the other Gentlemen of Council, went to *Moorbedabad*, and applied themselves to the Regulation of the whole Subadary, they sent me the following Message by *Mootyram*: "Make us some Acknowledgement, and we will settle all your Business according to your Heart's Desire, otherwise we shall be displeased, and your Business meet with no Assistance; for you formerly made an Acknowledgement to Lord *Clive* and other Gentlemen." I informed them that Lord *Clive* never said a Word on this Subject, and that I did not give him even a single Daum. They sent me a Message in Answer as follows: "You may not be acquainted with it, but your Fathers made an Acknowledgement; give us Five Laaks of Rupees." I answered, "Our Fathers never did give Lord *Clive* a single Daum." They replied, "If you would wish to have your Business go freely on, make us some Acknowledgement." Being remediless, I consented to give 125,000 Rupees; 50,000 immediately, and the rest when I could collect in my Debts from the Country. The Gentlemen agreed to this; and accordingly I sent them 50,000 Rupees by my *Mutafaddies* and *Mootyram*: In fine, there were none of my Debts collected in when Mr. *Johnstone*, &c. returned to *Calcutta*; and I also came to *Calcutta* to pay my Respects to Lord *Clive*; so that thus the Affair rested. Enquiry having been made of me, I have written these Particulars, in which there is by no Means a Word of Untruth.

A true Translation.  
*George Vanstuart*  
Persian Translator.

Written the 15th of Zeebidja of  
the 6th Year, 5th June, 1765.

Fort William the 7th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord *Clive* President,

*W. B. Sumner,*  
*Harry Verell,* } Esquires.  
*Francis Sykes,*

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 6th Instant.

Upon Advice being received that certain Bills specified in *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* attested Accounts, and that said to be received, had been since offered back to the said *Mahomed Reza Cawn* by one *Buffant Roy*, employed for that Purpose, by *Mootyram*, the Phouzedar of *Hooghly*;

The Committee judging such voluntary Restitution to be of a very extraordinary Nature, and suspecting it was designed to screen *Mootyram* from Detection, and cover Transactions with which it might highly concern the Public to be acquainted,

Resolved, That the said *Buffant Roy* be seized, brought before the Committee, and sworn to answer truly to such Questions as shall be proposed to him.

*Buffant Roy* being sworn before the Committee, deposed as follows:

Q. Did you go this Day to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and offer him back the Obligations which he gave for the Payment of Money to several Gentlemen?

A. They are not Obligations, but Bills.

Q. Did you carry the Bills to *M. R. C.*?

A. I did.

Q. By whose Order did you carry these Bills?

A. By *Mootyram's*.

Q. At what Time did you receive them from *Mooty-*

A. At Eight this Morning.

Q. At what Hour did you carry them to *M. R. Cawn*?

A. At Eleven this Day.

Q. Where did you receive the Bills from *Mootyram*?

A. At his own House.

Q. What Order did *Mootyram* give you, when he delivered the Bills?

A. To carry them to *M. R. C.* and nothing more.

Q. Did you ever carry the Bills before *M. R. Cawn*?

A. No.

Q. What Answer did *M. R. Cawn* make when you offered him the Bills?

A. He was angry, would not receive them, and asked why I brought them.

Q. Did you know if these Bills were ever offered by any one else to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know on what Account these Bills were granted to *Mootyram*?

A. No I don't, having since that Time been received into his Service.

Q. Did you return from *M. R. Cawn's* to *Mootyram*; and what did he say to you?

A. I heard he was under a Guard, and no One permitted to speak to him; and I have not seen him since.

The Bills being produced, appear to be drawn for the following Sums, and all in Favour of *Mootyram*.

N<sup>o</sup> I. A Bill for *A. R.* 25,000, drawn by *Myaram Dyaram*, at *Moorbedabad*, on *Jugjeun Dafs Gair Chund*, at *Hooghly*, in Favour of *Mootyram*, dated the 19th *Cheit (March)* payable at Ten Days after Sight.

N<sup>o</sup> II. For *A. R.* 50,000, dated the 3d *Cheit*.

N<sup>o</sup> III. For *A. R.* 50,001, dated the 4th *Cheit*.

Each drawn on *Seet Manan Chund* and *Annan Chund*, at *Moorbedabad*, on *Juggut Seet Fitter Chund*, and *Seet Anan Chund* at *Hooghly*, in Favour of *Mootyram*, both payable at 10 Days Sight.

N<sup>o</sup> 4. } Each for *Sawat* Rupees 25,000, dated the  
N<sup>o</sup> 5. } 30th *Cheit*, drawn by *Minty Chund Joy Chund* at *Moorbedabad*, on *Jerdardafs* at *Burdwan*, in Favour of *Mootyram*, payable at 10 Days after Sight.

Total per the above Bills, Rupees *Arco* and *Sawat* 175,001.

*Clive,*  
*W. B. Sumner,*  
*Verell,*  
*Fra. Sykes.*

Fort William, the 8th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President,

*W. B. Sumner,*  
*Harry Verell,* } Esquires.  
*Francis Sykes,*

Read, approved, and signed the Proceedings of the 7th Instant.

It appearing from the Evidences of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*, and also from the Deposition of *Buffant Roy*, that *Mootyram*, Phouzedar of *Hooghly*, was deeply concerned in all the pecuniary Transactions specified in those Evidences, Bills to great Amount having been drawn in his Favour:

The Committee resolve, That he be sent for, sworn, and examined, in their Presence, and also that he be confronted by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*, in order that it may appear with Certainty whether the said *Mootyram* was authorized to demand Money of the *Seets*, or whether he presumed to prostitute the Characters of



the Gentlemen of the Deputation, by making use of their Names without the Sanction of their express Authority.

The Deposition of *Moostyram*, Phouzedar of *Hooghly*.

Q. Did you go to *Juggut Seet* to demand Money?

A. I did.

Q. Who sent you to *Juggut Seet*?

A. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* sent *Ismael Ally Cawn* with me to *Juggut Seet*.

Q. Who sent you to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*?

A. Mr. *Jobnstone*.

Q. What Message did you carry from Mr. *Jobnstone* to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*?

A. I was ordered to desire him to ask the *Seets* for Presents.

Q. Did any of the other Gentlemen join in this Message to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*?

A. I had my Order from Mr. *Jobnstone* only.

Q. Did Mr. *Jobnstone* send you in his own Name, or in that of the Deputation?

A. He sent me in his own, and in the Names of *Messieurs Senior, Lyeester, and Middleton*.

Q. What passed when you went to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; did you ask him for Money from the *Seets*?

A. I did, I asked him for Three Laaks.

Q. What Day did you go to Mr. *R. Cawn*?

A. I cannot say for certain, but the Affair was about Twenty Days in settling.

Q. Can't you determine within a Day or Two of the Time you first mention?

A. I cannot, but it was about the Twenty-first of *Runzaan*.

Q. What Answer had you from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, when you desired he would make this Demand on the *Seets*?

A. He first said, "Very well, I'll try what I can do;" but on my Application, he said, "It was very improper to ask Money of the *Seets*—it will get me a bad Name."

Q. Do you confess the Contents of *Juggut Seet's* Letter to be true?

A. I do.

Q. What did you say to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* about stopping the Business of the *Seets*, unless they complied with the Demand?

A. I did tell him that the Gentlemen would protect their Business, if they would make a Present; if not, the Business of the *Seets* would meet with no Protection or Countenance.

Q. You say that *Ismael Ally Cawn* was sent with you to the *Seets*; what passed there?

A. When *Ismael Ally Cawn* demanded Three Laaks of Rupees for the Gentlemen, *Juggut Seet* answered, "If the Gentlemen will be satisfied with Kings, Jewels, and such Presents, from Ten to Twenty-five thousand Rupees, I will comply." But on *Ismael Ally Cawn's* pressing him farther, he agreed to give 50,000, which was not accepted: And then *Juggut Seet* said, "Well, I will speak to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* myself."

Q. Was you present at all this Conversation?

A. I was, but did not speak.

Q. Do you know how the Affair was settled?

A. Yes, I heard that *Juggut Seet* afterwards consented to give 75,000 Rupees, then he rose to a Laak, and at last consented to give 125,000.—This I heard from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

*Juggut Seet* being present at this Examination, was asked, "If he ever communicated the Conversation between him and *Moostyram*, as set forth in his Letter?" He answered, "Yes, to my Brother, to *Brigault* my Mounshy, and to *Chickimull my Vakeel*."

Q. Did you demand the Money of the *Seets* in your own Name, or on the Gentlemen's Account?

A. I demanded it on Account of the Gentlemen surely, and thole that lent me.

Q. When the Money was sent by *Juggut Seet* to Mr. *R. Cawn's* House, did he forward it immediately to Mr. *Jobnstone* at *Moostywill* in a Stackeree, and was Mr. *Jobnstone* angry?

A. He did forward it to *Moostywill* in a Stackeree, with which Mr. *Jobnstone* was angry, and said, Why was not the Money given to *Moostyram*, or lent more privately.

Q. You are charged by *Juggut Seet* with having visited him Thrice, once when he was alone, once in Presence of *Ismael Ally Cawn*, and once when his Brother was with him.—Is this true?

A. It is true, I did visit him Thrice.

Q. Had you any Conversation with him about the Demand in any of these Visits?

A. I had I must confess. At the Time I visited *Juggut Seet* when he was alone, he told me he would agree to give 75,000 Rupees to the Gentlemen, and desired I would represent to them that his Circumstances would not afford more, which I promised to do.

Q. Did you go to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and offer to return some Bills, desiring he would take them until all Things were settled, and he was Part of the Way on his Return from *Calcutta*; saying, You would meet him at *Hooghly*, and there take their Amount?

A. I did. I went by Mr. *Jobnstone's* Order, about 12 or 14 Days ago, and tendered the Bills to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and desired he would take them; and told him, that as soon as Disputes were over, I would receive their Amounts, if he then consented to pay; but *Mahomed Reza Cawn* refused taking the Bills.

Q. What Number of Bills, and to what Amount, did you offer back?

A. Five Bills drawn in my own Favour, amounting to 175,001 Rupees.

Q. What is become of those Bills?

A. I sent them Yesterday Morning by *Bussant Roy* to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

Q. On whose Account did you receive those Bills?

A. They were the Amount of a Present to be paid by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to *Messieurs Jobnstone* and *Lyeester*, and to Mr. *Jobnstone's* younger Brother.

Q. Do you know how much for each of the Gentlemen?

A. For Mr. *Jobnstone* 105,001 Rupees, for Mr. *Lyeester* 50,000, and for Mr. *Jobnstone's* Brother 20,000 Rupees.

Q. What Money have the Gentlemen received from the Nabob?

A. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had the Management of that Business.

Q. To what Amount might have come through your Hands of the Nabob's Money?

A. Mr. *Jobnstone* first received through my Hands from the Nabob 137,500 Rupees, and afterwards a Laak more, making 237,500 Rupees; besides which, his Brother received afterwards 50,000 Rupees of the Nabob; but what was paid to the other Gentlemen I know not, their own Mutuaddies transacting that Business for them.

Q. Do you know whether these Demands were the Act of Mr. *Jobnstone* singly, or whether they proceeded from the Deputation jointly?

A. I received my Orders from Mr. *Jobnstone* only.

Q. Was it of your own Accord, or was you ordered to tell *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, that if the *Seets* complied with their Demand, their Business should be protected, otherwise it would have no Countenance or Encouragement?

A. I was ordered by Mr. *Jobnstone*.

Q. Is this Evidence which you give true in every Circumstance, according to the best of your Judgment?

A. It is, and I never will retract it; but if there should appear any Thing contradictory or unsatisfactory at first, it was owing to the Confusion I was under when brought before this Company.

Clive,  
W. B. Sumner,  
H. Verelst,  
Fra. Sykes.

11th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,

Harry Verelst, Esquires.  
Francis Sykes,  
Mr. Sumner indisposed.

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 8th Infant.

Letters from General Carnac of the 26th and 27th ultimo, advising that *Sajah Dowlab*, as his last Resource, had thrown himself upon our Generosity, and was now actually in Camp, ready to receive such Terms of Peace as we shall prescribe; and this appearing to the Committee a favourable Opportunity for establishing the Tranquillity of the Country on a permanent Foundation, by demanding no other Conditions than such as shall appear to be for the mutual Interest of the contracting Parties, equitable in themselves, and evidently calculated for the public Benefit;

Resolved, That the General's Letters be acknowledged, his Sentiments approved, and the following Instructions sent to him for settling Preliminary Articles with *Sajah Dowlab*, which he is not to conclude definitively until Lord Clive's Arrival in Camp.

But wishing to be secured in the Possession of his Country, *Nudjuff Cawn* to be restored to the Possession of his former Dominions, and all those who either joined or assisted the *English* to be encouraged, the King's Honour, Safety, and Subsistence to be consulted; *Cosim Ally*, *Sumroo*, and the Deserters, to be demanded, or put to Death by *Sajah Dowlab* himself; but this last Article not to be considered as essential, though obtaining it would be agreeable, it being the Opinion of the Committee he should be engaged to our Interest by the Ties of Gratitude, and not by Compulsion.—To acquaint the General that full Powers will be given to Lord Clive, in Conjunction with them, to settle every Thing as they shall think proper and necessary to the Stability of the intended Peace, also to desire he will use his Influence to prevail on the Vizier to shorten Lord Clive's Journey, and meet his Lordship at *Banaras*, or at *Patna*.

Received a Letter from General Carnac, dated the 22d ultimo, advising he had repulsed the Enemy, and was returning to *Jajman* to meet *Sajah Dowlab*, who had desired an Interview.

Ordered, The General's Letters, minuted in the former Part of these Proceedings, and also the Committee's Answer, be entered.

Agreed, That the Secretary send Copies to Messieurs *Senior* and *Middleton* of the Proceedings of the 1st, 5th, 6th, and 8th Infant, requiring their immediate and explicit Answers to such Particulars in the above-mentioned Papers as relate to them.

Received a Letter from the Chief and Council at *Dacca*, dated the 8th, setting forth the Prejudice that must arise to the Affairs of the Gentlemen of the Factory, should the Order for re-calling Free Merchants be immediately enforced.

Agreed, That Four Months, beyond the Time limited

in those Orders, be allowed to their several Agents; and that we write them to this Effect.

Clive,  
H. Verelst,  
Fra. Sykes.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your Letters of the 7th, and 12th, and with One from the Council under Date the 6th, inclosing to me a Copy of the Paragraphs from the honourable Company's last General Letter relative to the Committee, but the Copy of the Oath which I am to take, is not yet come to my Hands.

I have the highest and most grateful Sense of the Confidence you are pleased to repose in me, and beg Leave to assure you, it will be ever my earnest Study and Wish, to act in such Manner as to merit your Approbation.

I advised the Board, in a Letter under Date 28th ultimo, of *Nudjuff Cawn*'s having joined *Sajah Dowlab*. It must frequently happen that particular News will reach *Calcutta*, previously to the Advice thereof from me, as others write upon mere Hearsay and Report, whereas I cannot with Propriety do so but in Consequence of certain Information.

You may depend upon my punctually observing your Directions, to send my Letters alone, in Case of any material Advice; a Rule which, to the best of my Recollection, I have hitherto constantly observed.

I arrived here Yesterday, having left the Army to follow in Two Divisions by easy Marches. The First Division I expected in To-morrow. I acquainted the Board the 22d (a Duplicate of which Address will be dispatched by this Conveyance) with the Reasons of my being in such a Hurry to return, viz. on Occasion of a Letter from *Sajah Dowlab*, the Copy of the Original, a Translation thereof, and the Substance of my Answer, your Lordship, &c. will receive herewith. If we can make a Friend of *Sajah Dowlab*, which I really believe we may, provided we use with Moderation our Success, and do not urge him to Despair, I am firmly of Opinion that he, from the extreme Regard in which he is held throughout the Country, even in his present Distress, will prove a much better Security to our Frontier than any One we can put in these Dominions in his Room: I beg to be favoured as soon as possible with your Sentiments on this Head.

I am, with the greatest Respect,

My Lord, and Gentlemen,  
your most humble Servant,  
John Carnac.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

Hearing that *Sajah Dowlab* was drawing near, I sent Captain *Swinton* with *Rajah Shittabroy* to meet him. He arrived in the Evening on the opposite Side of the River, and immediately crossed it with his Brother-in-law *Salar Jung*, and a very few Followers, in order to wait upon me. I received him with all possible Marks of Distinction, at which he expressed much Satisfaction. He appears, however, a good deal dejected at his present Condition, which must bear very hard upon him; and he must find himself without Resource, or being, as he undoubtedly is, the most considerable Man in the Empire, and of an uncommonly high Spirit, he would not have submitted to such a Condescension. It will, in my Opinion, greatly add to the *English* Name throughout the Country, our behaving with Generosity towards

towards a Person who has all along bore a high Reputation in *Hindostan*.

I am,  
*Jejeman,* with the greatest Respect,  
 the 27th May 1765. My Lord, and Gentlemen,  
 Your most obedient Servant;  
*John Carnac.*

A Translation of *Sujab Dowlab's* Letter to General *Carnac*, received the 19th May 1765.

It is known all over the World, that the illustrious Chiefs of the *English* Nation are constant and unchangeable in their Friendship, which my Heart is fully persuaded of. The late Disturbances were contrary to my Inclinations; but it was so ordered by Providence. I now see Things in a proper Light, and have a strong Desire to come to you; and I am persuaded you will treat me in a Manner befitting your own Honour. You have shewn great Favours to others; when you become acquainted with me, you will see with your own Eyes, and be thoroughly sensible of my Attachment, from which I will never depart while I have Life. I am this Day, 26th of the Moon, arrived at *Bilgram*: Please God, in a very short Time I shall have the Happiness of a Meeting with you. As for other Particulars, I refer you to *Mongr o Dowlab*, and *Rajah Shitabroy*.

With his own Hand.

My Friend,  
 I regard not Wealth, nor the Government of Countries; your Favour and Friendship is all I desire. Please God I will be with you very soon, when you will do for me what you think best.

General *Carnac's* Answer, the 24th May 1765.

I have been favoured with your Letter, in which were some Lines wrote with your own Hand, declaring your Intentions of coming to me; that you was arrived at *Belgrim*, and expect such a Reception as becomes a brave Man to give; and that I will be sensible of the Warmth and Sincerity of your Friendship, after we become acquainted; and that you do not look for Country nor Wealth, but the Friendship of the *English* Nation; and that, please God, you will be very soon with me.

The Receipt of this Letter gave me great Pleasure: You was before unacquainted with our Customs and Dispositions; Thanks be to God that you are now become sensible of the Justice and upright Intentions of the *English*. Now that you are pleased to come to me in a friendly Manner, you may depend on the best Reception in my Power, suitable to our Customs; and I will not be deficient in forwarding whatever is reasonable for your Interest; and when your Excellency shall shew a real Attachment to the *English*, their Friendship towards you in Return will be made manifest to the whole World: You may with perfect Confidence come here as to your own House, and to those that with your Welfare; further Particulars you will learn from *Mongr o Dowlab*, and *Shitabroy*.

A true Copy.

*A. Swinton.*

To Brigadier General *John Carnac*, Commander in Chief of the Army.

S I R,

Your Letters of the 26th and 27th *ultimo*, afford us great Pleasure; the Intelligence they convey is important, and the Sentiments you express generous, and such as we are determined to adopt. We join with you in Opinion, that every Appearance of Insult and Violence, to a Person of *Sujab Dowlab's* Character, ought to be carefully avoided in the Terms we demand. Among Men of Honour and Sentiment, a Peace can

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only be permanent where the Advantages are reciprocal.

Lord *Clive*, who proposes to set out for the Army in Four or Five Days, will be impowered, in Conjunction with you, to settle every Thing in whatever Manner shall appear most conducive to the great Object we have in view, that of immediately restoring the public Tranquillity, and establishing Peace on a lasting and solid Foundation. The honourable Reception you propose giving the Vizier will put him into such good Humour with the *English*, that he probably may be prevailed on to shorten Lord *Clive's* Journey, and meet his Lordship at *Banaras*, or even at *Patna*.

In the mean Time, the settling preliminary Articles, and adjusting a Plan of Pacification with him, will greatly facilitate Matters; but you must come to no final Determination until his Lordship's Arrival.

The Points we would chiefly recommend to your Regard, in sketching these Preliminaries, are, That *Balwant Sing* be pardoned, and secured in the Possession of his Country, on the same Terms as when he was under the Government of *Sujab Dowlab*; that *Nudjiff Cawn* be also restored to the Possession of *Korea*, his Country; and that all others, who have joined, or afforded Assistance to the *English*, meet with equal Favour and Encouragement. The King's Honour must be consulted, and his Safety and Subsistence secured, wherever he chuses to reside. *Cassim Ally* and *Sumroo* we would be glad to have delivered into our Hands, if *Sujab Dowlab* will do it voluntarily, or else put to Death by himself; but if neither can be effected without disgusting him, and thereby endangering the Stability of the Peace, it must be left to his own Honour. In short, we would rather bind them to us by the Ties of Gratitude, than by Force and Compulsion.

In Money Affairs we must appear generous and disinterested; and if you stipulate for any Sums to be paid, they ought to be on Account of the Company, who have some Claim to an Indemnification, and whose Interest ought to be our principal Object. In other Particulars we rely on your own Discretion and approved Zeal for the Good of the Service; being, with great Esteem,

S I R,  
 Fort William, Your most obedient,  
 the 10th June 1765. and most humble Servants.

P. S. We would further recommend, That you stipulate with *Sujab Dowlab* for the Establishment of Factories, and an entire Liberty of Trade, in every Part of his Dominions; but we mean not to support this Privilege by any Military Force, nor to introduce Troops or Garrisons into his Country.

21st June 1765. At a Select Committee,

P R E S E N T,  
 The Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President,  
*W. B. Sumner,*  
*Harry Verelst,* } Elquires.  
*Francis Sykes,*

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 11th Instant.

Having perused a Letter under Date the 7th Instant, addressed to the Select Committee, from General *Carnac*, wherein he intimates his Intention of speedily concluding Peace with *Sujab Dowlab*, and differs in some material Particulars from the Sentiments of the Select Committee;

Agreed, That we immediately write to the General, repeating our Instructions of the 10th Instant, to enter into no definitive Engagements before Lord *Clive's* Arrival in Camp;—And,

5 O

Ordered,

Ordered, That the General's Letter, with the Committee's Answer, be entered after these Proceedings.

The several Evidences, Depositions, and Letters, relative to the Application of Money issued from the Nabob's Treasury since the Death of *Meer Jaffer*, and of Presents from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*, to Messrs. *Johnstone*, *Senior*, *Middleton*, and *Leycester*; also the Minutes and Letters of those Gentlemen, as entered in the Consultations of the Board, and in our Proceedings, being duly weighed and considered;

The Select Committee are unanimously of the following Opinions;

That Mr. *Johnstone* has actually received the several Sums, in Money and Bills, specified for his Use in the general Accounts of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*.

That he appears, from the Evidences entered in our Proceedings, Agent and Manager in obtaining and distributing the Presents; but unacquainted, we would willingly suppose, with the Menaces used by *Mootyram*, in his Name, to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and *Juggut Seet*, in order to extort a Sum of Money from the latter for the Use of the Deputation; and lastly, That he is guilty of actual Disobedience to the Company's Orders, in arraigning indecently, and refusing positively to acknowledge, the Authority wherewith the Select Committee are invested by the honourable the Court of Directors, and by urging their usurped Powers in Excuse for declining any Reply to Charges that so deeply affect his Character.

That Mr. *Senior* has received all the Money specified for his Use in the Evidences already mentioned, and also the further Sum of 50,000 Rupees from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* on his own Account; but that he neither authorised the Messages delivered by *Mootyram*, nor was active in obtaining or distributing the Presents.

That Mr. *Middleton* has received Presents from the Nabob and *Juggut Seet* only, firmly believing them to be voluntary, and that he always intended to refuse the Present designed him by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

That Mr. *Leycester* has received the several Sums affixed to his Name in the above-mentioned Accounts, but that he neither did nor intended to receive the Bills lodged with *Mootyram* for his Use, nor was any Way concerned in the Menaces thrown out by that Person to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*;—all which is further confirmed by the Oath which he voluntarily took before the whole Board.

That Messrs. *Playdell*, *Burdett*, and *Gray*, have each received 50,000 Rupees from the Nabob, in the full Persuasion that the same was a free Gift to the Gentlemen who then composed the Board, without any Application on their Parts, or Consideration on the Nabob's, for Services performed.

That Mr. *Carter* was utterly a Stranger to any Demands made in his Name, and that he would absolutely have refused a Laak of Rupees intended for him by the Nabob, as specified in the above-mentioned general Account of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, had it been ever tendered to him.

That, upon the Whole, the Gentlemen who sat at the Board, as well as those who negotiated at the Durbar, were guilty of actual Disobedience to the Company's positive Orders relative to the Covenants, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving Presents contrary to the express Letter and Spirit of those Obligations; yet, to avoid every Appearance of exerting with Rigour the Powers wherewith they are intrusted, or of being actuated by any other Motives than those of Honour, and a firm Attachment to the Interest of their Employers;

Resolved, That the Select Committee leave to the honourable Court of Directors to pass final Judgement, and refer to their Minutes, entered in Consultation

of the 23d Instant, for a Justification of their Proceedings.

Such are the Sentiments, and such the Resolution of the Select Committee, on a Subject which they entered upon with Pain, and prosecuted with Reluctance; and now they appeal to the honourable Court of Directors, and the common Sense of Mankind, to judge whether they have pursued their Enquiries with Decency and Candour; whether they have pried officiously into Facts that were not publicly known to the Settlement; whether they have handled private Characters with Indelicacy, sought Occasion to condemn where they possibly could acquit, or divulged what the Duty they owe to themselves, their Employers, and the Public, would suffer them to conceal; and lastly, whether they have extended beyond the Bounds of the utmost Moderation those Powers with which they are vested, "To pursue such Ways and Means as to them shall appear necessary for restoring Peace and Tranquillity?"

Taking into Consideration the Youth, Inexperience, and Incapacity of the Nabob, the Necessity of placing the Administration in the Hands of Men capable to support the Weight of Government, and attached to the Company's Interest, and likewise the great Danger that may arise to the Stability of the present Establishment, from suffering the whole Power and absolute Management of the Three Provinces to rest in a single Person;

Resolved, That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* be advised to relinquish the Title of Naib Subah, and also a Part of the unbounded Authority wherewith he was vested by the late Treaty, as a Measure not only agreeable to the Nabob, but necessary to the Safety of the present Government, and the future Tranquillity of the Country; in Justification of this Resolution, the Select Committee think it necessary to observe, that, notwithstanding *Mahomed Reza Cawn* is accused by the Nabob of dissipating his Treasure, and withholding his Revenues, yet to openly and candidly has he accounted to the Select Committee for every Rupee disbursed from the Treasury, they cannot, without Injury to his Character, and Injustice to his Conduct, during his short Administration, refuse continuing him in a Share of the Government, although they judge it necessary to retrench his Authority, and balance his Power, in order to produce that perfect Equilibrium of Influence which alone can remove the Nabob's Jealousies, and give Permanency to the Measures they are taking to prevent the Necessity of future Revolutions.

Taking likewise into Consideration the Character and Abilities of the several great Personages about the Nabob's Court and Person, their Influence in the Country, and their Attachment to the *English*;

Resolved, That *Roydub* and *Juggut Seet* be associated in the Administration of the Government, with *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, as Persons whose Characters afford us the fairest Prospect of giving Stability to the present Government, and that each enjoy an equal Share of Power and Authority.

And the honourable Court of Directors may be satisfied of the Reasons which determined the Committee to this Choice, they beg Leave to remind them, that *Roydub* was a principal Agent in effecting the Revolution in 1757, in Favour of *Meer Jaffer*, since which Time he has continued firmly attached to the *English*; and that *Juggut Seet* is Son and Nephew of the Two great Men plundered of their Effects, and cruelly put to Death, by that Tyrant *Cassim Ally Cawn*, on Account of their faithful Services to the Company.

Ordered, That the Regulations for the Administration of the Country Government be entered after these Proceedings.

The Right honourable the President having acquainted the Committee, that he intends leaving *Calcutta* in a few Days, to take upon him the Command of the Army, and desiring he may be intrusted with Powers, in Consultation

junction with General Carnar, for concluding Peace with *Sujah Dowlah* and regulating the Company's Interests with the Country Powers;

Ordered, That the necessary Powers, and the Committee's Sentiments respecting the Term of Pacification, be drawn out, and conveyed to his Lordship in the Form of a Letter.

A Draft of the above-mentioned Letter being prepared, read, and approved,

Ordered, That a fair Copy be sent to his Lordship, and the Letter entered after these Proceedings.

Resolved, That Mr. *Vereft* be appointed Supervisor of the *Burdwan* Revenues, and impowered to make such Enquiry into the late Deficiency and present Situation of the Revenues of that Country, as may enable the Committee to form a Plan for regulating the future Collections, in such Manner as shall appear most conducive to the Happiness of the People, and Interest of the Company.

Also that the Council at *Burdwan* be advised of his Appointment, and directed to correspond with him accordingly, but without Interruption to their Intercourse with the Board.

Having considered the important Dispatches, it will be necessary to transmit to the Court of Directors, as early as the Season will permit, the Advantages which will result from employing a Ship of Burthen on this Service, and also the Time requisite for equipping her;

Agreed, That we recommend to the Council the purchasing the Admiral *Stevens*, and having her immediately surveyed.

Messieurs *Vansittart*, and *Pleowman* setting forth in a Letter to the Committee, the Loss that must arise to Mr. *Henry Vansittart*, should his Agent, Mr. *Hargrave* at *Rungpoor*, be re-called at the Time required by the late Order of the Committee, and requesting that an Indulgence of Three or Four Months longer may be granted;

Agreed, That the Secretary acquaint them Mr. *Hargrave* will be allowed Four Months from this Date, for collecting Mr. *Vansittart's* Affairs; and that he likewise inform all who may in future apply, that the Committee are resolved to see the Company's Orders rigidly enforced at the Expiration of this Period.

Mr. *Skinner* sends in a Letter on the same Subject.

Ordered, His Request be granted, and that the Secretary acquaint him of the above-mentioned Resolution.

Received a Letter from Mr. *Scotney* at *Patna*, representing to us the Prejudice it would be to his own Affairs, as well as those of his Constituents, should he be obliged to return to *Calcutta* in the Space of One Month.

As Mr. *Scotney's* Representation was thought disrespectful and improper;

Ordered, The Secretary write him in Answer, that such Applications, it is expected, should be made in Terms more moderate and respectful; but that, influenced by no Consideration of the Manner in which he chose to ask for an Allowance of Time, we do agree to grant him Four Months longer from this Date, for collecting his Affairs, at the Expiration of which he is desired to repair to *Calcutta* without further Notice.

This Month's Proceedings  
examined by *Edward Baber*,  
Sub-Secretary.

*Clive*,  
*Wm. B. Sumner*,  
*H. Vereft*,  
*Fra. Sykes*.

To the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your Letters of the 14th and 18th ultimo, and have received from your Secretary, by your Order, the Extracts from the Company's General Letters, and the Copy of the Oath of Secrecy. This I cannot at present take, there being no Company's Service with me, but I will not fail doing it the first

Opportunity; and in the Interim you may depend on my Obedience thereof, with the same Strictness as if sworn.

The Introduction of Captain *McPherfon* upon the *Bengal* Establishment was doubly an Injury upon our Officers: First, as it was directly contrary to an Assurance which had been made them in public Orders by Mr. *Vansittart*, that the Officers of the *Bombay* Corps should not be admitted into ours; and Secondly, on Account of the Motive of his Reception, which was avowedly no other than in Consideration of his paying to Captain *Whicheat* the Sum of 10,000 *Arco* Rupees. This I set forth so plainly to the Board, as your Lordship, &c. may observe, in the Course of my Correspondence, that I never could have imagined they would have persisted in keeping him upon our Establishment.

It is hard to account why *Sujah Dowlah* did not unite the Forces under *Sembre* to the *Matbrats* in their late Incurſion; either they were intended to enter by another Quarter, from which they were deterred by the Quickness with which we accomplished our Business in this; or, which is more probable, *Sembre* was afraid to enter the Lists against us, and his Maſter had not Power ſufficient to oblige him; for, however contemptible he may be before us, yet having, as I am aſſured, ſtill near 300 Europeans with him of one Sort or other, and from Five to Six thouſand *Scopys*, with ſome Guns, *Sujah Dowlah* muſt have been in Awe of him, and appears to me to be glad to have got clear of him. This Villain is now ſaid to be negotiating for Service with the *Tauts*.

My laſt Addreſs was dated the 27th ultimo, adviſing you of *Sujah Dowlah's* being come in to me; ſince which I have not troubled you, having nothing material to communicate. I have deferred coming to any abſolute Agreement, till I have ſeen the King, and know his Pleaſure. He has left *Ilalabad*, and has got to *Manibpur* on his Way hither; but as the Rains are ſo near ſetting in, I think it moſt adviſable to ſave him that Trouble, and that we ſhould move towards him. I am accordingly croſſing our Troops over the *Ganges* ſpeedily as poſſible for that Purpoſe, and in the Interim, that no Time may be loſt, we are proceeding on the Trials of the ſeveral Gentlemen in Arreſt. I have undertaken ſo far as to give *Sujah Dowlah's* Hopes of the Subah of *Aud*, being aſſured that his Maſtety will gladly deliver it to him, as the only Means to ſecure Tranquillity to the Country, and that it cannot be made over to any other, who will be able to maintain it longer than while our Army remains. I have intimating to him, that ſome Indemnification will be expected by us from him, for the immenſe Expence in which he involved us, and ſhall ſtrenuouſly inſiſt thereon; and I flatter myſelf of ſucceeding, though he pleads Poverty, and has ſolemnly aſſerted to me, in the Name of God and his Prophet, that he has not Two Laaks of Rupees: Should you be of Opinion with me, that the Zamyndary of *Banaras*, &c. is at too great a Diſtance to be worth our keeping, this may alſo be hereafter ceded to him, in Conſideration of a Sum of Money in Exchange for the ſame.

Major *Stibbert*, whom I detached towards the Frontier on this Side of *Lucknow*, has been very active and diligent, and has entirely removed the diſaffected Parties that ſtill remained in that Neighbourhood. By Means of a forced March he fell in with, on the Morning of the 2d Inſtant, one *Mongul Chan*, a Jemadar who had been particularly troubleſome; after a ſhort Skirmiſh the Enemy were put to the Rout, *Mongul Chan* himſelf, with ſeveral of his People were killed, and a Parcel of Country Guns, which they had with them, all taken.

I have been reduced to the Neceſſity of forcing ſome other Forts near our Camp; and as we loſt a Volunteer, and a few Men on the Occaſion, the ill-fated Defendants have paid the Forfeit of their Lives for their Obſtinacy.

I have diſcovered a moſt flagrant Fraud in the Muſter of the Quarter-maſter's Coolies, belonging to the *Penkay* Detachment.

Detachment. Finding that their Number greatly exceeded what their Quantity of Stores required, I examined the Quarter-master's Banian, who acknowledged his having taken from the Bazar upwards of Three hundred Men to stand the Muster. I immediately confined the acting Quarter-master, the established being sick at *Ilahabad*, and you may be assured I will use every Endeavour to trace the Fraud to its Source, that an exemplary Punishment may be inflicted on those capable of so shameful an Imposition.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,  
My Lord, and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
humble Servant,  
*John Carnac.*

Camp at *Nagapur*,  
the 17th June 1765.

To Brigadier General *John Carnac*, Commander in Chief of the Army.

S I R,

We have just received your Letter of the 7th Instant, in which you express your Expectations of concluding Matters very speedily with *Sujab Dowlab*. By this we imagine you understand the adjusting certain Preliminary Articles, to serve for the Outlines of a Peace, to be finally concluded on Lord *Clive's* Arrival in Camp. You are already informed that his Lordship, in Conjunction with you, will have full Power to pursue such Measures and form Engagements, as he may think necessary; and you will perceive, from our Letter of the 10th Instant, that the Intentions of the Select Committee, respecting the Terms of Pacification, are different in some material Particulars from those you express; for this Reason, we hope it will reach your Hands soon enough to prevent you entering into any definitive Engagements.

Captain *McPherson's* Appointment would probably never have taken Place, had Lord *Clive* then been in Charge of the Government. As Things are now circumstanced, we are of Opinion the Officers ought to rest satisfied with his losing Rank, and coming in the youngest Captain on the *English* Establishment, as a farther Concession cannot be made with any Propriety by the Board. We are with great Respect,

Fort William, S I R,  
the 21st June 1765. Your most humble Servants.

To the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have received a Letter, signed by your Secretary, dated the 13th Instant, conveying several Extracts and Papers from your Proceedings, touching an Enquiry made by you into the Business of the late Deputation, of which I had the Honour to be a Member, and requiring me to answer to such Facts as related to myself; which I shall now do, and in as clear a Manner as possible.

That I have received a Present from the Nabob I will not take upon me to deny, but not in the Manner set forth in the Narrative, N° 1; and am much surprised that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* should have forgot himself so much. I had heard that the Nabob did intend a Present to the Gentlemen in Council, but what it was I never knew, till one Evening that Messieurs *Johnstone* and *Lycester* came to sup with me at *Moudapoor*, when the latter told me, that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had been at *Mooty-jill* that Afternoon, and brought a Paper from his Excellency, offering a Sum of Money to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, and desired to know my Opinion of the Matter, whether or no I intended taking of it; to which I replied, If it is a voluntary Gift, I should have no Objections, nor did I think the World could blame me for

it. Much more passed on the Occasion, which I cannot now recollect; but as it was only made a secondary Part of our Conversation, it is not material to the Subject. He further told me, that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* would be at *Mooty-jill* the next Morning, and desired I would come over. Accordingly *Mahomed Reza Cawn* came at the appointed Time, and presented us with a Paper, wrote upon in the *Persian* Language, which he explained, and was to this Purpose: The Nabob *Nizam ul Dowlab* desires the Gentlemen of the Deputation to accept of a Present, as follows: To Mr. *Johnstone* 1,37,500; to Messieurs *Senior*, *Middleton*, and *Lycester*, 1,12,500 each; which Paper we returned to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and, to the best of my Remembrance, told him, That if the Nabob designed us such a Present, it must come directly from himself, and not through the Hands of him, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, or Words to the same Purpose. A short Time after, having Business at the Durbar, we waited upon the Nabob, and after some Conversation with him, he himself presented us with the before-mentioned Paper, which we again refused, telling him, that as he had in a Manner expressed a Dissatisfaction at our Proceedings, how could he think we would accept a Present from him? He upon this appeared something alarmed, and told us, That he was by no Means displeased with our Behaviour to him; on the contrary, believed us his sincere Friends; but if we still persisted in the Refusal, he should look upon us hereafter as his Enemies; and that we had some other Reason for it, or Words to that Effect. Upon which we accepted the Paper, and delivered it to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* for Payment. No more was said of the Matter, as I know of, till such Time *Nawdecmar* was ordered to *Calcutta*, when about Three Days after we returned the Paper again, as we heard his Excellency had been greatly displeased at this Proceeding of calling down his Minister, and laid the whole blame upon the Gentlemen of the Deputation. He accordingly appeared to lose all Confidence in us, and said, that he was now convinced we were his Enemies, and were determined to remain so, &c. which induced us to take back the Paper, and it seemingly gave him perfect Satisfaction. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* thereupon became answerable for the Payment of the Money, which was accordingly made.

With regard to the Present received from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, as set forth in his Narrative, (N° 2) I am greatly surprised he should assert that the Proposal came from the Members of the Deputation; and do solemnly declare, that it never was done in my Presence, or to my Knowledge, nor did I ever consider it in the Light he mentions, but as a Token of his Gratitude for the many good Offices he has repeatedly expressed to have formerly received at my Hands. As to what he mentions regarding the rest of the Council, I am entirely ignorant of the Matters; nor did I believe that such a Question was ever put to him, or such an Answer made him, by any of the Members.

Touching the *Ser's* Present, I do declare upon my Honour, that I never knew of any threatening Messages being sent him on the Occasion, either through *Mootyram*, or any others; but always looked upon it as an Offer made by himself. Nor would I by any Means have agreed to the receiving of it, had I in the least suspected that even an Application had been made to him for it.

Thus have I answered, as far as is in my Power, the Particulars requested of me. It is possible my not being perfectly acquainted with the Language of the Durbar may have occasioned some small Variation in trifling Circumstances, but I am conscious of having acquitted myself, in the late Deputation, truly for the Honour as well as Interest of my Employers. I cannot therefore accuse myself, or think I stand liable to the Censure of others, by benefiting something my private Fortune, in a Service which has ever been known to prove advanta-

gious to such Gentlemen as have heretofore been employed on the Occasion.

I am,  
My Lord, and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient,  
Coffimbuzar,  
the 18th June 1765.  
humble Servant,  
A. W. Senior.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

Having received a Letter, dated the 13th Instant, from your Secretary, inclosing Copies of your Proceedings of the 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th June, relative to some Presents said to be received by the Members of the Deputation from the Nabob, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and *Juggut Seet*, with their Narratives of the Affair, and requiring me to declare how far those Parts relating to myself are true;—I beg Leave to trouble you with the following Remarks and Answer.

In *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Narrative, (N<sup>o</sup> 1) I observe the following Paragraph, said to be a Speech from us to him :

"The Gentlemen who have assisted former Nazims have obtained Presents; now that we have seated his Excellency on the Musnud, and rendered him Service, we hope that he will make Presents to us also; do you represent this to his Excellency." And that he desired we would mention it to his Excellency ourselves: But that on our further pressing him, he (apprehensive of our being offended at a Refusal) did apply to the Nabob, and obtained his Consent. To this I reply, That no Conversation to this Effect did ever pass in my Presence, or to my Knowledge; nor did I ever know of any Present being demanded, either from the Nabob or *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. The latter, on a Visit to us at *Mootyram*, produced a Paper, with the Nabob's Seal, containing an Offer of 475,000 Rupees, to be distributed as follows: To Mr. *Johnstone* 137,500, to Mr. *Senior* 112,500, to Mr. *Leycester* 112,500, and to myself 112,500, which we then rejected, and desired *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to return it to the Nabob. About two Days after this, being at the Kella on public Business, the Nabob himself presented us with the Paper, which we again refused; and it was not till after his most earnest and repeated Solicitation (and being seemingly offended at our refusing it) that we agreed to take it; and he then ordered *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to see it paid.

In *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Second Narrative, I observe the following Message, said to be delivered to him by *Mootyram*, as from us: "Whereas you have been appointed his Excellency's Naib, it is proper that you make us some Present from yourself." I deny that any Message of the Kind was ever sent to my Knowledge, or by my Consent, either by *Mootyram* or others; nor did I ever desire any Acknowledgement from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; but was informed by Messieurs *Johnston* and *Leycester*, that a Present of One Laak was intended by him to each of the Deputies. I avoided receiving any Part of this, and afterwards determined on refusing it, with which I acquainted Mr. *Leycester* on my Arrival in Calcutta; and he then told me, he had intended the same for some Time.

*Juggut Seet* in his Narrative says, that he received by *Mootyram* the following Message as from the Deputation: "Make us some Acknowledgement, and we will settle all your Business according to your Heart's Desire, otherwise we shall be disappointed, and your Business will meet with no Assistance; for you formerly made an Acknowledgement to Lord Clive and other Gentlemen." That on his declining, it was again repeated with Threats, and he was thereby obliged to promise 125,000 Rupees, 50,000 of which he paid down. I must here declare I know of no Message being ever

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sent, or Application made, to *Juggut Seet*, regarding a Present or Acknowledgement from him to us. Mr. *Leycester* acquainted me, that *Juggut Seet* intended something to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, but he did not then know how much. Some Time after, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, at *Mootyram*, said in my Presence, that *Juggut Seet* intended 115,000 Rupees to be divided between the Four Deputies; that 40,000 was paid to him; and I some Time after received from him 10,000 Rupees as my Proportion. The above is all I know relative to this Transaction, being entirely ignorant of *Mootyram's* being employed in this Business. In your Proceedings of the 8th Instant, containing an Examination of *Mootyram*, I find the above Narrative of *Juggut Seet* confirmed by the Deposition of *Mootyram*; who however says he received his Orders from Mr. *Johnstone* alone; but in the Name of all the Gentlemen of the Deputation: I think it necessary, in Justice to my own Character, to declare, I never authorised Mr. *Johnstone* to give such Orders, nor did I ever hear from him that such Messages were sent, as I ever esteemed the Sum I received from *Juggut Seet* a voluntary Offer of his own.

I observe that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* desires that it may be minute in your Proceedings, that on the Gentlemen desiring a Present from him, he asked, If it was not a general Affair, and if the other Gentlemen of the Council were not to have a Share? To which the Deputies replied, "This must be for us, let them look to themselves." Of this I declare myself entirely ignorant, as I never heard of such a Question being put, or of such an Answer being given.

Having now, as far as came to my Knowledge, replied to every Particular concerning myself, and as you have been pleased to take upon you to enquire into these Transactions, I freely submit it to your Determination, being conscious of having never acted contrary to the strict Principles of Honour, or in the least deviated from the Duty I owe my Employers. I am, with great Respect,

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

*Moradabang*,  
the 18th June 1765.  
Your most obedient Servant,

*Samuel Middleton.*

Regulations for the Provinces of Bengal, *Babar*, and *Orrisa*.

The Nabob *Nudjum-ul-Dowlah*, *Merr Nudjum-ul-Deen*, *Ally Cawn Bahadur*, Nazim, the Nabob *Maen-ul-Dowlah Syed*, *Mahomed Reza Cawn Bahadur*, Nayib, *Mharaja Doolabram Br. Dewann*, *Juggut Seet Cosfulchund*, and *Mharaja Odowichund*, Chiefs of Trade.

The appointing and displacing of the Foudgars, Aumils, and other Officers of the Nizamut, and the Regulation of the whole Business of the Revenues and the Country under his Excellency, shall be managed by the Nabob *Maen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja Doolabram Br.* and the *Seets*, and his Excellency shall consent thereto.

If any One be oppressed, his Effects seized, or his Life endangered, the aforesaid Gentlemen shall use their Endeavours to put a Stop to such Proceedings, and if they suspect that it is not in their Power to put a Stop to them, they shall advise the Governor thereof with all Speed, that he may inform the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee of such Proceedings, and put a Stop to them.

After the necessary Expences of Government have been provided for, if there be any Overplus, it shall be deposited in the public Treasury, under the Care of the aforesaid Gentlemen; and there shall be Three different Locks to the Door of the Treasury, and Three Keys: One to remain in the Possession of each of the aforesaid Gentlemen, that neither of them may be able to take out any Money without the Consent of the others.

Of these Three Gentlemen *Maen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja*

Mharaja Doolabram, and the *Seets*, if any One act contrary to the Opinion of the other Two, those Two shall give Advice thereof to the Governor, that he may lay the Matter before the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee, and take proper Measures on the Occasion.

Such Number of Horse and Foot shall be kept up as the aforesaid Gentlemen shall judge necessary for the Business of the Collections, and all needless and improper Expenses shall be reduced.

Let them remove from the Durbar all mischievous Men, deceitful and evil Counsellors, and not put it in their Power to make any Disturbance.

Let not the aforesaid Gentlemen go to the Durbar without each other's Knowledge, nor attempt any Thing to each other's Prejudice.

For the Preservation of Friendship and Harmony, and the Care of the Nabob's Affairs, and the Company's Money, a Gentleman of Council, of Probity and Abilities, shall be appointed to reside at the Capital, on the Part of the Company. A monthly Allowance shall be made him by the Government, proportionable to his Rank, and the Accounts of the Receipts and Expenses, for the Business of the Government, &c. shall be laid before him monthly for his Perusal.

Instructions from the Select Committee.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We greatly approve your Resolution to embrace the present favourable Opportunity of establishing a general Peace, and effecting a cordial and lasting Friendship with the Country Powers.

These important Ends, so necessary to the Prosperity of the Company, will more effectually be answered by a personal Interview with *Suja Dowlab*, and the other Chiefs, than from a Correspondence carried on at this Distance; as many Circumstances, leading to a direct Knowledge of their real Sentiments, will occur in the Course of your Conferences.

It is from a Consideration of these Circumstances that we apprehend any particular Instructions to your Lordship will be unnecessary. Much must be left to the Discretion of those who act on the Spot; and we are happy in the Assurance that your Lordship's perfect Acquaintance with, and Zeal for, the Company's Interest, will enable you to fulfil our most sanguine Wishes.

The preliminary Articles, transmitted the 11th Instant to General Carnac, contain our general Sense of the Terms which we ought to demand; and to restrain your Lordship to express Instructions, would only serve to retard and embarrass your Negotiations.

We therefore empower your Lordship, in Conjunction with Brigadier General Carnac, to stipulate such Conditions with *Suja Dowlab*, to form such Connections with the Country Powers, and to pursue such Means, as you shall judge necessary to the Company's Interest, the public Welfare, and the obtaining a safe, honourable, advantageous, and lasting Peace. At the same Time we must request your Lordship's particular Attention to the Preliminaries already conveyed to the General, and now inclosed; upon which we shall beg Leave to enlarge, since we consider them as essential to the Stability of the public Tranquillity.

Experience having shewn, that an Influence maintained by Force of Arms, is destructive of that commercial Spirit, which we ought to promote, ruinous to the Company, and oppressive to the Country, we earnestly recommend to your Lordship, to exert your utmost Endeavours to conciliate the Affections of the Country Powers, to remove the Jealousy they may have conceived of our Ambition, and convince them that we aim not at Conquest and Dominion, but Security in

carrying on a free Trade, equally beneficial to them and to us.

With this View, Policy requires that our Demands be moderate and equitable, and that we avoid every Appearance of an Inclination to enlarge our territorial Possessions. The Sacrifice of Conquests, which we must hold on a precarious Tenure, and at an Expence more than equivalent to their Revenues, is of slight Consideration to us, yet will such Restitution impress them with a high Opinion of our Generosity and Justice.

For this Reason we think *Suja Dowlab* should be re-instituted in the full Possession of all his Dominions, with such Limitations only as he must see are evidently calculated for our mutual Benefit, the Good of his Country, and Happiness of his People. We would decline insisting upon any Terms that must prove irksome to his high Spirit, and imply our Suspicion of his Sincerity. Retaining Possession of any of his strong Holds, may be deemed a necessary Pledge of his Fidelity; for our Parts, we would rather consider it as the Source of future Contention, and an unnecessary Burthen to the Company, unless it is proposed one Day to resume the Thoughts of extending their Dominions; a Measure very opposite to the Sentiments in which we left the Proprietors and Court of Directors.

Thus by engaging the Vizier to a strict Regard to the Conditions of our Amity by the Ties of Honour, Gratitude, and Interest, we form the most secure Barrier to the Nabob's Dominions on this Quarter that can well be devised. It is General Carnac's Opinion, and it is likewise ours, that no other Person can be placed in that Station, whose Authority, Influence, and Popularity, will so effectually answer this Intention, or whose Character promises fairer to become a faithful Ally, when wrought upon by Motives of Gratitude and Interest. He has thrown himself into our Arms, he vests his Hopes on our Generosity, it becomes us therefore not to disappoint his Expectations, and urge him on to Despair.

It will be necessary, however, that your Lordship obtain a full Grant, in the fullest Terms, for carrying on a free Trade through his Dominions, with the Privileges of establishing Factories wherever we shall think proper, to which shall be annexed such contiguous Lands and Districts, as may be found necessary to the Convenience and Support of the Settlements. We mean without Charge to *Suja Dowlab*, or Diminution of his Revenues. But the keeping Possession of *Chinagur*, and other strong Holds, and protecting our Commerce by Military Power, is a Measure, concerning the Expediency of which your Lordship will judge from a further Enquiry into Circumstances.

That *Bukant Sing* be secured in the Possession of his Zemindary, *Nudjuff Cawn* restored to the same Situation and Circumstances as at the Commencement of the War, and all possible Protection and Favour obtained for those who assist us, are Terms which Justice and Honour demand.

That *Cassim Ally*, *Sombre*, and the Deserters, be surrendered to us, or put to Death by *Suja Dowlab*, is a Point we extremely wish to obtain, if it can be effected without Violence to his Inclinations, and Danger to the Stability of the Peace; but hitherto *Suja Dowlab* has appeared so averse to this Concession, which so deeply affects his Honour, that we doubt whether your Lordship will meet with Success.

We would likewise recommend, that Provision be made for the Security of the King's Person and Dignity; but in what particular Manner, we leave to your Lordship and General Carnac to determine, from a Consideration of the Circumstances and Situation of the Country.

And this, my Lord, would appear to us the most favourable Occasion that may ever occur for obtaining Sunnuds from the King for the Dewannee of *Bengal*, a Point of great Consequence to the Company, much desired,



fired, and strongly solicited, by General Carnac, but without Effect; a Price being expected and demanded, that was thought by the Governor and Council more than equivalent to the Advantage. Times are since altered. The King is now dependant on our Bounty; his whole Hopes of Protection and Subsistence rest upon us. It cannot therefore be supposed he will prove obstinate in denying a Request of little Consequence to him in his present Circumstances, but advantageous to us his greatest Benefactors; and, we may say, his only Friends. We therefore beg Leave to recommend this as One of the most important Points to be negotiated.

Lastly, We are of Opinion your Lordship should require such Indemnification for the great Expences incurred by the Company as Justice demands, *Sujah Dowlah* may be brought to think reasonable, and the Country can afford, without oppressing the People, and thereby laying the Foundation of fresh Discontents.

Upon the Whole, my Lord, notwithstanding we have Reason to conclude, from the Report of *Sujah Dowlah's* Character, that Acts of Generosity are the most likely Means to secure his Friendship and Fidelity, yet we must submit to your Lordship's Judgment, formed on a more intimate Knowledge of his Sentiments and Disposition, how far it will be necessary to guard against a Breach of Faith, and the Disappointment of our Hopes. Princes are not always confined to the Laws prescribed by Honour and Justice, nor governed by the Dictates of good Policy. Sparks of Resentment may lie concealed in his Breast, ready to be kindled into a Flame by the first Gult of Passion or Ambition. In Course of your Conferences many Opportunities will occur of penetrating into his most secret Wishes, from which your Lordship may determine, whether it will not be expedient to bind him down by stronger Ties than those of Honour and Gratitude, and operate on his Fears, when we despair of engaging his Affections. Restoration of his Country, should we even retain *Chinagur* and *Jaonpoor*, is more than he can possibly hope, in his present Situation; yet should this Restriction appear the only Obstruction to a cordial and permanent Peace, we think it ought to be relinquished.

These, my Lord, are the principal Objects which we beg Leave to offer to your Attention; the rest we readily submit to the Conduct of that Prudence, which has so often availed our Employers in more difficult Situations. We have only further to request, that your Lordship will favour us with a Communication of such of your Negotiations as you may think more immediately interesting to the Select Committee; and be assured of our best Wishes for your Health and Success; being, with equal Esteem and Respect,

My Lord,

Fort William, Your Lordship's most obedient,  
21 June 1765. and most humble Servants.

4th July 1765.  
At a Select Committee; P R E S E N T,  
W. B. Sumner, Esquire, President,  
Harry Verelst, Esquire,  
Francis Sykes, Esquire.

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the  
21st ult.

The Right honourable the President having transmitted to us a Letter, under Date the 23d ult. which he received from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the same was attentively perused by the Committee; who unanimously agree,

That *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has, in this Letter, related Facts with great Candor and Precision, confirming in the strongest Manner the several Particulars set forth in his former Evidence.

That he positively asserts, and with the greatest Ap-

pearance of Truth, that neither the Presents from the Nabob, nor from himself, were voluntary, but granted after some Altercation and tedious Negotiations with the Gentlemen of the Deputation.

That "Mr. *Jobynson* at first desired a very large Sum; but after a great deal of Debate," and many Conferences, *Mootyram* consented to accept 625,000 Rupees from the Nabob, and 475,000 Rupees from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; of which Sums the Whole has been paid by the Nabob, and 225,000 by *M. R. Cawn*, in Money and Bills.

That over and above 137,500 Rupees, which Mr. *Jobynson* obtained from the Nabob, as a joint Member and Senior Servant on the Deputation, the same Gentleman stipulated, "That 100,000 Rupees for himself, "and 50,000 Rupees for his Brother, should be paid "secretly from all the other Gentlemen."

That, besides the above Sums clandestinely obtained from the Nabob, Mr. *Jobynson*, as principal Agent and Manager, thought proper, without the Consent or Knowledge of his Colleagues, likewise to appropriate 50,000 Rupees to himself, and 25,000 to his Brother, out of the Money granted by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, over and above his allowed Proportion, as a Member of the Deputation.

And, lastly, the Committee agree,

That *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter be entered on the Face of their Proceedings, as undeniable Testimony to all whom it may concern, of the Necessity, of the Impartiality, of their Proceedings, and the great Lenity of their Resolution, in submitting final Judgment to the Court of Directors; notwithstanding their Conduct has been bitterly censured, their Powers arraigned, their Characters aspersed, and their Authority, sufficient to enable them to proceed and justify them in proceeding, to the last Extremity.

The Select Committee think it necessary, on this Occasion, to assign the Reasons, which induced them to recommend to the Board, to purchase the *Admiral Stevens*.

That after waiting till the 4th July, in daily Expectation of the *Royal George*, or some other Packet, from Europe, they now have the utmost Reason to apprehend no Vessel will arrive soon enough to be returned with the important Advices, which they propose transmitting to the Court of Directors early in September, in order they may receive the Company's further Instructions by the Ships to be dispatched in March, April, or May following.

That as the Season is now so far advanced, as scarce to allow the Time requisite for repairing and equipping a Ship for the Voyage, they think it absolutely necessary to come to a Determination, and to enter on immediate Preparations.

That they apprehend the *Lapwing*, being an exceeding bad Sailer, might arrive too late in England, to answer the very Purpose for which Advices from the Committee are dispatched, and at best would only answer the End of a Packet, whereby the Company would incur a very considerable Expence:

Whereas, on the other Hand, the *Admiral Stevens*, being an excellent Ship, and prime Sailer, offered at a very reasonable Price, has this additional Advantage, that she will carry Home a rich and valuable Cargo, at a Season, when it must prove very acceptable to the Company, who will find themselves disappointed of great Part of the Goods they expected to receive by the *Bucc*.

Having received no Advices from General Carnac since our last Meeting,

Agreed, We acquaint him with our Surmise at his Silence at so critical a Juncture; and that Lord Clive was on his Way to Camp, to take upon him the Command of the Army, and negotiate a Peace with *Sujah Dowlah*, in Conjunction with him.

Agreed also, We write to Lord Clive, informing him, that a Warrant for his holding Courts Matti I will immediately

mediately be sent; and inclosing a Copy of our Letter to the General.

Ordered, That both these Letters be entered after the Proceedings.

Mr. *Mariatt* having applied for Leave, that his Brother should remain with him at *Banaras*, agreeably to the Resolution of the Board last December;

The Secretary is directed to acquaint him, that we grant his Request.

Mr. *Billers* also representing how much his private Affairs would suffer, should he be deprived of Mr. *Hutchinson's* Assistance, by his Compliance with the Order for recalling Free Merchants, and requesting he may be allowed to remain with him at *Paina*;

The Secretary is directed to inform Mr. *Billers*, that his Request is granted, in Consideration of the Necessity he is under of giving his whole Attention to the public Business.

Mr. *Thomas Motte* setting forth, in a Letter to the Committee, that his Fortune must be entirely ruined, should he be obliged to return to *Calcutta* agreeably to the late Order, on Account of the Balance of Rents due to him on the Farms held from the Company in *Burdwan*;

The Secretary is ordered to acquaint him likewise, that the Time necessary for collecting his Debts will be allowed.

Mr. *Anyatt* also represents the complicated State of the late Mr. *Ellis's* Affairs, for which he is Administrator; and requests that his Agents, Messrs. *Tamlin, Jeffson, and Helaß*, may be indulged with a longer Time than that specified in the late Order;

The Secretary had Directions to acquaint him, that Four Months from the 21st ultimo will be allowed them for collecting the Affairs of the deceased in their Hands.

Having just received a Letter from General *Carnac*, under Date the 19th ultimo,

Agreed, We immediately acknowledge his Letter; and order it, together with the Committee's Answer, to be entered.

This Month's Proceedings

examined by

*Edward Baber,*

Sub-Secretary.

*Wm B Sumner,*

*H. Verelst,*

*Francis Sykes.*

*Makomed Reza Cawn's* Letter to the Right honourable Lord *Clive*.

"I have had the Honour to receive your Letter, wherein you write, That the Account I gave of the Money received by the Gentlemen from the Nabob and me has been laid before the Council; that now all the Gentlemen say, That the Nabob made them Presents of his own free Will; that you are informed by Mr. *Senior*, in a Letter he has written you in Answer, that the Money, viz. 137,500 Rupees for Mr. *Johnstone*, 112,500 for Mr. *Middleton*, 112,500 for Mr. *Lycester*, and 112,500 for Mr. *Senior*, was distributed by me; and that you, therefore, request I will immediately acquaint you whether the Distribution of the Money was made by the Nabob of his own free Will, or by me, or by the Direction of any other Persons."

Sir, I have already fully represented, and do now again fully represent, on this Subject, what is the real State of the Case. There is One Paper to which his Excellency has set his Hand and Seal for 475,000 Rupees, which Sum was given by his Excellency agreeably to my Representations, and my Representations were in Consequence of Mr. *Johnstone's* Desire, who sent me a Message by *Moortram*, That the Gentlemen wanted some Money, and that I should procure them some from the Nabob. As I perceived, that in case of my not representing this Matter to the Nabob, the Gentlemen would have been offended with me, I was therefore obliged to do it. I was for some Days treating with

Mr. *Johnstone* at first desired a very large Sum, but after a great deal of Debate, the Nabob gave under his Hand and Seal, One Note for 475,000 Rupees, and other Two Notes for 100,000 Rupees for Mr. *Johnstone*, and 50,000 for his Brother, the Whole amounting to 625,000 Rupees for Mr. *Johnstone*, Mr. *Middleton*, Mr. *Senior*, Mr. *Lycester*, and Mr. *Johnstone's* Brother. When this Sum was fixed, I shewed the Notes to Mr. *Johnstone*. At that Time no Distribution of the Money had been settled, but it was afterwards settled in his Excellency's Presence, agreeably to Mr. *Johnstone's* Directions concerning it. I gave all the Three Notes into his Excellency's Hand, and likewise acquainted him, that it was Mr. *Johnstone's* Pleasure, that the 100,000 Rupees for himself, and 50,000 for his Brother, should be paid secretly from all the other Gentlemen; the Note for 475,000 Rupees his Excellency delivered with his own Hand, in Presence of all the Four Gentlemen, to Mr. *Johnstone*, who at first refused it, but at last received it out of his Excellency's Hand; and said, "What shall the Gentlemen do with a bare Note?" His Excellency delivered the Note to me, and told me, Do you pay all this Money; I accordingly did so, agreeably to his Excellency's Orders. With Regard to the Gentleman's Assertion, that the Nabob gave the Money of his own free Will, in such Case, Why did he complain to you, Sir, that I had taken away the Money belonging to his House, and distributed it amongst the Gentlemen; do you yourself judge: I did nothing but obey the Orders of both Sides: My Representations to his Excellency were in Consequence of the Gentlemen's Orders, and his Excellency himself also told me, that I must do whatever was their Pleasure.

With regard to the Notes I gave from myself, the Amount thereof is 475,000 Rupees, *Moortram* came to me, and told me, that I ought to make some Present to Mr. *Johnstone*, and the other Gentlemen, from myself also. I sent a Message in Answer, suitable to my Circumstances; but *Moortram* returned and acquainted me, that the Gentlemen were not satisfied, but were even offended with me. Agreeably to their Pleasure, therefore, I gave Notes for 475,000 Rupees; One for 400,000, to be equally divided between Messieurs *Johnstone, Senior, Middleton, and Lycester*, and One, which the other Gentlemen knew nothing of (for 75,000 Rupees) 50,000 for Mr. *Johnstone*, and 25,000 for his Brother. Of the above Sum 225,000 Rupees have been paid, 175,000 by Five Bills which you have seen, and 50,000 in ready Money to Mr. *Senior*; and there is a Balance due of 250,000 Rupees, 100,000 to Mr. *Middleton*, 50,000 to Mr. *Senior*, 50,000 to Mr. *Johnstone*, and 50,000 to Mr. *Lycester*. I formerly shewed you Copies of the Nabob's Three Notes, and now also I transmit you Copies inclosed. My Two Notes *Moortram* received from me, and carried to Mr. *Johnstone*, in whose Hands I imagine they now are. You will demand them from him, and peruse them. What I formerly represented, and now again represent, deviates not a Hair's Breadth from the Truth. I then acquainted you fully with the Particulars, and now I relate the Substance to you: This Matter I have already written to the Committee.

I arrived To-day, being Sunday, at *Daudpoor*, where I was honoured with your Letter; I shall set out To-night for *Moorsbadabad*, and have the Honour of waiting on his Excellency To-morrow.

A true Translation.

Dated the 23d June 1765.

*George Vansittart,*  
Persian Translator.

To the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We now forward to you, under Cover, our Letter to General *Carnac*, and To-morrow we shall dispatch the Warrant for your Lordship to hold Courts Martial.

The

The Secretary acquaints us, that you approve the Extract sent you from the Proceedings of the 21st *ultimo*.

We shall therefore put an End to that tedious Business the first Meeting of the Board, and open our next Committee with *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Letter to your Lordship, and a few general Remarks upon it, as it cannot, with any Propriety, be entered in the Proceedings of the 21st.

You may be assured, my Lord, we shall give the most attentive Perusal, as you desire, to the Proceedings of the Court Martial, of which your Lordship will be able to form a still more accurate Judgment when you are in Camp, and a Witness to many leading Circumstances that cannot be exprest on Paper.

We remain,

With the warmest Sentiments of Esteem,

My Lord,

*Fort William,* Your Lordship's most humble Servants,  
the 1st July 1765.

To Brigadier General *John Carnac*, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Pursuant to your Advices transmitted to you the 20th, *Lord Clive* left this Place the 25th *ultimo*, proposing to stop a Day or two at *Moorshedabad*, and then to proceed with all possible Dispatch to the Army, of which you will resign the Command to his Lordship immediately on his Arrival.

We have veiled his Lordship, in Conjunction with you, with full Powers to negotiate with *Sajab Daulab* and the Country Powers; and you will perceive, from the Tenor of our Instructions, that our great Aim is to obtain a lasting and honourable Peace, to revive our languishing Commerce, to impress the Natives with a Sense of our Justice and Moderation, and to reduce these heavy military Charges, which have hitherto rendered our extraordinary Success, and even the Cession of rich Provinces, fruitless to the Company.

From the Contents of your Letter, under Date the 7th *ultimo*, it appears to us, that Circumstances of the highest Importance must daily occur, which it is absolutely necessary should be communicated to the Committee. We are sorry therefore to observe your Silence at a critical Juncture, when you must be sensible that every Article of Intelligence would enable us to judge more clearly, and determine precisely on many Points, of which we can now form only general and imperfect Ideas. We earnestly recommend to you, therefore, that you will omit no Opportunity of writing to the Committee, until *Lord Clive's* Arrival, and that you will then co-operate with his Lordship in pursuing such Measures as shall appear necessary to the Company's Welfare, and the Happiness of the Country.

We remain, with Esteem,

Sir,

*Fort William,* Your most humble Servants,  
the 1st July 1765.

To the Right honourable *Lord Clive*, President and Governor, &c. &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your Letter of the 30th *ultimo*, and with a Duplicate thereof.

I am thoroughly sensible of, and truly thankful for, the Attention you have been pleased to shew me, so different from the Behaviour towards me of the late Administration. If I have exprest myself with too much Warmth, on Occasion of their ill Treatment, I hope you will be kind enough to make Allowances for the repeated Slights I had received, and that you think they, in some Measure, justify my Resentment.

As soon as I had dissolved the Court Martial, I

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judged it most advisable to make the best of my Way to the King, who chose to halt at *Manikpur*, and there wait for me. Accordingly I pushed forwards, leaving Major *Jennings* to bring on the Army by easy Marches, Sir *Robert Fletcher* being somewhat indisposed, and being on that Account gone by Water to *Ilhabad*. I arrived here Yesterday, and immediately waited upon his Majesty, who exprest much Satisfaction at *Sajab Daulab's* being come in, and confessed he had no other Expedient, but by a Reconciliation with him, of maintaining himself longer than while supported by us. I am to present *Sajab Daulab* to him To-morrow: I wait with the greatest Impatience for your Lordship's, &c. Answer to my Address of the 22d *ultimo*, being in Hopes it will bring me some Intimations whereby I may judge how far you are willing to favour *Sajab Daulab*, and to serve me, as a Foundation to proceed with the greatest Confidence.

Before I crossed the *Ganges*, *Daym Chan*, the adopted Son of *Akmud Chan* (*Bungo*) waited upon me on the Part of his Father, and both *Akmud Chan* himself, and *Hafez Rahmut*, another considerable *Rohyllab* Chief, signified to me their Desire of visiting me; but neither the Season nor the Business I was upon would admit of the Loss of so much Time as would necessarily be taken up in receiving their Visit.

The *Jauts* have been much alarmed by our entering the Subah of *Agra*, and have set all their Hands at Work in setting that, and the other Ports in their Possession, in the best Posture of Defence.

Our Troops are so exhausted, and have suffered so much from the excessive Heat, as to require being thrown into Quarters of Refreshment as soon as possible; I propose disposing the greater Part of them in the Neighbourhood of *Jumpar*, within Twenty Kois of *Banaras*, which is repmented to me as an exceeding healthy Situation.

I am with Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

*Manykpur,* Your most humble Servant,  
the 19th June 1765. *John Carnac.*

To Brigadier General *John Carnac*, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 19th, which we received Yesterday, gave us great Pleasure, by removing the Uneasiness we found on Account of your Silence, at a Time when your Correspondence alone could afford any Information on many important Subjects, which necessarily demand the Attention of the Select Committee.

This occasioned the Paragraph in our Letter to you the 1st Instant, wherein we request that you will write more frequently; and also acquaint you, that *Lord Clive* had left *Calcutta* the 25th *ultimo*, to take upon him the Command of the Army, and, jointly with you, to conclude a definitive Treaty of Peace with *Sajab Daulab*.

Again we exhort you to co-operate heartily with his Lordship in this necessary and salutary Measure, adhering as nearly as possible to the Preliminaries specified in our Instructions.

We approve much of your Resolution to put the Army into Quarters of Retirement, after the Fatigue of a long Campaign, and we submit entirely to you the Choice of those Quarters; being, with much Esteem,

*Fort William,*

the 4th July 1765.

Sir,

Your most humble Servants.

7th July 1765.

At a Select Committee; P R E S E N T,

*W. B. Sumner*, Esquire, President,

*Harry Vessel*, Esquire,

*Francis Sykes*, Esquire.

Read,

Read, approved, and signed, the Proceedings of the 4th Instant.

It appearing from the Right honourable the President's Letter, under Date the 3d Instant, that our Plan, formed with a View of giving Stability to the Nabob's Government, by dividing the Administration equally between *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Juggad Set*, and *Dullooobren*, is in Danger of being subverted, through the Ambition of the latter, and the excessive Moderation or Timidity of the former.

And it likewise appearing to the Committee of the said Importance to the Company's Interest, to prevent any Breach of the Plan of the Regulations for conducting the Country Government, as entered in their Proceedings of the 21st *ultima*, to check the aspiring Views of *Dullooobren*, and to support and maintain each of the Three Ministers in the precise Share of Authority allotted to him, without Increase or Diminution of the Power specified in the above-mentioned Regulations;

Resolved, That as the Business of the Committee will necessarily be at a Stand until Mr. *Vereff* returns from *Burdwan*, Mr. *Sykes* be appointed to reside a few Weeks at the Durbar (but without Injury or Diminution of the Weight and Influence of the present Resident) in order that he may support the present established System of Administration, and thereby obviate the bad Consequences which may arise to the Company from any Revolution in the Government, at a Juncture when the whole Attention of the Committee is employed on the Means to secure the future Tranquillity of the Country, to revive our Commerce, to perpetuate our Revenues, and to establish the Interest of our Employers on the most solid and durable Foundation.

Resolved, That in Consideration of the low State of the Treasury, the Right honourable the President be requested to exert his Influence in obtaining Five or Six Lakhs of Rupees for the Company, to answer immediate Exigencies, until the Revenues are brought into proper Order.

Resolved also, That we acquaint Mr. *Middleton*, Mr. *Sykes* intends visiting the Durbar, to conduct some Business now under Consideration of the Committee, and desire that he will aid and assist him, as far as in his Power, in whatsoever he may require.

Agreed, That we write to Lord *Clive*, to acquaint him of Mr. *Sykes's* Appointment, and that his Letter to the Committee, together with their's to his Lordship, and to Mr. *Middleton*, be entered after the Proceedings.

Agreed also, That we draw out Instructions for Mr. *Sykes*, for the Regulation of his Conduct at the Durbar.

This Month's Proceedings examined by *William B. Sumner*,  
*H. Vereff*,  
*Edward Baber*, Sub-secretary. *Francis Sykes*.

A Letter from the Right honourable Lord *Clive* to the Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

It is with Pleasure I can acquaint you, that the more I see of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the fronger is my Conviction of his Honour and Moderation; but at the same Time I cannot help observing, that either from Timidity, or some erroneous Principle, he is too ready to submit to Encroachments upon that Proportion of Power in the Government which has been allotted him. When we established him, and the other Two Ministers, we intended, their Departments being distinct and separate, that they should never interfere with each other's Authority, but preserve an equal Sway in the Management of the Nabob's Affairs.—*Roy Dullab*, however, has already attempted to destroy this Balance of Power, and *Mahomed Reza Cawn* rather approves than resists it; the Appointment of all the Officers for collecting the Revenues is grasped at by the one, and submitted to by the other. This is certainly subversive of our Intentions,

as it has a Tendency to increase the Power of *Roy Dullab*, and diminish that of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; and I am of Opinion, that if we do not prevent it, the Government which we so deliberately planned, for the Honour and Security of the Nabob, will, ere long, be disturbed by Jealousies, Discord, and numerous other Evils, which generally prognosticate a Revolution in this Country. An early Appointment of a proper Person to reside at the City, on the Part of the Company, seems to me to be the best Means of preserving Tranquillity. Mr. *Sykes* is the Gentleman we proposed should fill this Employment, as soon as it might be thought not improper for him to vacate his Seat in the Committee. At present, to be sure, he cannot be spared, except for Two or Three Weeks; and as there will probably be a Suspension of important Business in the Committee till General *Carnac* and I shall have the Honour of communicating to you our Negotiations with *Sufab Doulah*, I would propose that Mr. *Sykes* should, in the mean Time, go to *Muxadavah*; and remain there about a Fortnight, which, I apprehend, would effectually prevent any Disunion among the Three Ministers of State, and over-awe that Encroachment of One of them which I have represented, as they will then be thoroughly convinced of our Resolution to support the Plan we have formed. Mr. *Middleton*, I think, should be given to understand, that Mr. *Sykes's* Visit at the City will not be to his Prejudice; and I make no Doubt he will be happy in the honourable and moderate Conduct of his Successor; nor will Mr. *Sykes* with the Company to be at any additional Expence for so short a Residence.

If what I have proposed should meet with your Approbation, I shall be glad to find it carried into Execution as soon as possible.

I have nothing farther to add at present, than my Assurances of communicating to you punctually, from Time to Time, such of my Transactions as I may judge worthy your Observation, and that I have the Honour to be, with great Esteem,

Gentlemen,

*Matyill*, Your most humble Servant,  
the 3d July 1765. *Clive*.

To Samuel *Middleton*, Esquire, Resident at the Durbar.

Sir,

Having deputed Mr. *Sykes* to conduct certain Affairs at the Durbar, now immediately under the Consideration of the Committee, you are not to regard his Visit as derogating in the smallest Degree from the Weight and Influence it is proper you should maintain as public Resident from the Board.

You will easily see the Impropriety of charging any other than a Member of the Committee with the Management of Business that has not yet been disclosed to the Board, which alone will sufficiently point out our Intentions.

As Mr. *Sykes* sets out unprovided of every Thing necessary to support the Dignity of a Deputy from the Committee, you will please to assist him all in your Power with whatever he may require. A Company of *Seapoys* for his Guard will be absolutely necessary.

We are with great Esteem, Sir,  
*Fort William*, Your most obedient  
the 7th July 1765. Humble Servants.

To the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

Last Night we were honoured with your Letter of the 3d, and this Morning a Committee met to deliberate on the important Advices you were pleased to communicate.

We concur with your Lordship in Opinion, That it is of the utmost Consequence to the Company's Interest,

to provide, by every Means in our Power, against any Change in the Country Government as now established, and to support that equal Partition of Power between *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Doolubram*, and *Juggut Seet*, as resolved in our Proceedings of the 21st ultimo: Every Encroachment on the Share of Authority assigned to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* must be checked in Time, and his Timidity and Moderation sustained by our Influence, in order to demonstrate that we are determined to suffer no Violation of our Regulations, nor of our Agreement, which we regard as equally binding on each of the Three Ministers.

For this Reason we have requested of Mr. *Sykes* to proceed to the Durbar, and remain there as long as he can possibly be spared from the Business of the Committee, that he may have an Eye over the Conduct of *Doolubram*, and penetrate whether his Views extend to the arrogating to himself a greater Share of Power than we originally intended. This Task Mr. *Sykes* has cheerfully accepted, without other Considerations than those of promoting the public Interest, and forwarding the Measures of the Committee; and that Mr. *Middleton* may not conceive himself injured by this Appointment, we propose to acquaint him by Letter, that Mr. *Sykes's* Visit to the Durbar is intended merely to promote certain Measures now under Deliberation in the Committee, which cannot, with any Propriety, be trusted in other Hands.

The present State of the Treasury requires, that we request of your Lordship to exert your Influence in obtaining Five or Six Laaks of Rupees for the Company, to answer immediate Exigencies, until their Revenues are reduced into proper Order; after which we have the greatest Prospect of being able to supply every Necessity from our own Collections and Duties.

We are farther to request of your Lordship, that you will direct Mr. *George Vanhiltart* to translate the late Regulations of the Government (the Original of which you have with you) and transmit Copies of the same to us by the first Opportunity, it being necessary it should appear in our Proceedings.

We have the Honour to be,  
My Lord,

Fort William, Your Lordship's most obedient,  
the 7th July 1765. And most humble Servants.

To Francis Sykes, Esquire.

Sir,

Pursuant to our Resolutions of the 7th Instant, we would recommend to you, that you proceed with all convenient Dispatch to the Durbar, and there support, with all the Influence of the Committee, those Regulations which we lately made for the Administration of the Government.

It appears from Lord *Clive's* Letter, that dangerous Encroachments are designed by *Doolubram* on that Balance of Power, and Partition of Authority, which we judge necessary to the Security of the present Establishment: He has already infringed on the Agreement with his Colleagues, and exceeded the Line we drew for the Limitation of their several Authorities, by claiming to himself the Right of nominating the Officers of the Collections. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has yielded his Point with such Easiness of Disposition, and apparent Aversion to whatever can occasion Disputes, as will serve rather to encourage than to moderate *Doolubram's* Ambition.

You are therefore to keep the most watchful Eye over this Minister, to check every Symptom of his aspiring at a greater Share of the Administration than we have allotted him, to convince him that we are determined to support the present Regulation of the Government, and that any Tendency in his Conduct, to deviate from a Measure which we consider as essential to the due Management of Affairs, and the Peace and Happiness of the Country, will necessarily incur our Displeasure, and exclude him from the Proportion of Power he now enjoys.

We have already, in our Letter of the 7th to Lord *Clive*, and also in our Proceedings of that Date, touched upon the low Condition of the Treasury, requesting that his Lordship will exert his Influence in obtaining Five or Six Laaks of Rupees for the Company, to answer such Exigencies as may occur before their Revenues are reduced to the proposed Order. Should therefore our Advices to his Lordship have arrived too late for him to make the necessary Application, we would recommend it to you, that you promote this Measure, in the Name of the Committee, with all your Power and Interest.

As these are Points of the utmost Consequence to the Company, we must request that you will maintain a constant Correspondence with Lord *Clive*, and with us, during your Residence at the Durbar, which we apprehend need not, at this Juncture, exceed the Space of Three Weeks or a Month, when your Presence will be necessary at the Committee.

We shall desire of Mr. *Middleton* to aid and assist you all in his Power, in whatever you may require; and that he is to consider your Visit to the Durbar, as intended only to conduct certain Affairs now under Consideration of the Committee.

Your own Zeal for the Public Good, and your Prudence, will sufficiently direct you how to act in other Particulars, without further Instructions from us. We remain, with great Esteem,

Fort William, Sir,  
the 7th July 1765. Your most humble Servants.

## N 85.

Fort William, the 7th June 1765.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Right honourable *Robert Lord Clive*, President,  
*William Briggs*, *Samner*,  
*Charles Stefford Playdell*,  
*Harry Vertell*,  
*John Johnstone*,  
*Francis Sykes*,  
*Ralph Lyeffer*, and  
*John Burdett*, Esquires.

MR. *Lyeffer*, agreeably to his Intimation at the last Meeting of the Board, delivers in first the following Minute on the Style of the Nabob's Letter to the

Select Committee, entered on their Proceedings then perused.

The Nabob's Address to the Select Committee is a most extraordinary Production, whether the Matter or Style of it be taken into Consideration. It is an Appeal to these Gentlemen against the Conduct of a Committee of the Board, from whom, I suppose, he would have had Redress, had he been able to support a Complaint of this Nature; but, so far from that, I believe he has repeatedly expressed his Content and Satisfaction in many Letters to the Governor. Whether I consider myself as a Member of this Board, or as a Gentleman, I can by no Means allow myself to be treated with such unbecoming Language; nor will the Board themselves, I presume,

I presume, deem it decent to have me termed the Vaqueel of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, while I have been acting by Commission from the Board; and I call on you, Gentlemen, to do me Justice, and must request, before I even attempt a Refutation of the Nabob's Assertions, that you insit on Apologies being made for the Insult offered this Board through me; your Silence on such an Occasion must be interpreted into Approbation.

(Signed)

*Ralph Lyster.*

The Board are, in Consequence, unanimously of Opinion, That a Letter should be wrote to the Nabob by the President, expressing, in the strongest Terms, the Impropriety of his using such a Style in any Representation he might have Occasion to make touching the Conduct of the Members of the Board; which the President informs them he shall do accordingly.

And Mr. *Lyster* thereupon enters the following further Minutes in Vindication of his Conduct, on the Subjects of the Nabob's Complaints.

The honourable Motives on which I acted at *Muxadabad* leave not a Wish to conceal any Part of my Transactions; I have, however, one Objection to entering on my Defence, though that shall not prevent my Attempt to vindicate myself to you, Gentlemen; but I think it merits Consideration, how far it appears decent and proper to allow the Conduct of a Committee, and of Course the Representatives of the whole Board, to be thus arraigned for Transactions which have not at the Time been complained of. As my Commission terminated a Month and a Half before the Authority of that Board expired which made my Appointment, I think an Appeal should only have been made to those Gentlemen, for the Conformity of my Conduct to Views which the present Board cannot be such ample Judges of. And, that the Nabob and I may not go on in endless Contradiction of each other, I beg the Matter may be put on some certain Issue; and that, if the Nabob's Assertions appear false, the Board will determine what Measures to pursue, in order to prevent in future such unwarrantable Attacks, which every Gentleman must otherwise be for ever exposed to, who shall be prosecuting any Views that may be injurious to a First Minister or Favourite of the Nabob. I was aware, that if ever *Nundcomar* was able to influence the Nabob, he would urge every Thing which Malice and Villainy could invent, out of Enmity to me for the Share I had in his Removal. I am sorry to see the Nabob begin his Government with a Proceeding that must create so much Uneasiness and Jealousy between him and some Members of the Council, and which must, in a Manner, destroy all Confidence and Cordiality between them; but as the particular Displeasure expressed against me by the Nabob has solely been incurred by a steady Pursuit of the Company's Welfare, it shall not give me much Pain; for I am sensible their Interest would have been sacrificed, had we attended to each idle and evasive Argument with which *Nundcomar* took Care from Time to Time to supply him. But to reply more particularly to the Nabob's Charge:

Letters of Condolance had been wrote from the Governor on his Father's Death; and the first Half Hour of our first Interview was employed in Compliments of one Kind or other. We then acquainted the Nabob we had some private Business with him, and requested he would order his Attendants to retire, and that his Brother, being young, might do the same, which he complied with without Reluctance. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had already been ordered down from *Dacca* by the Board; but it might appear as much possible the Nabob's own Act, he was also desired to send a like Order. He, or rather *Nundcomar*, were guilty of a shameful Impostion on our Resident at the *Durbar*, on whose Application, the Nabob told him, Orders to that Effect should be sent, but transmitted Orders directly contrary. This was an apparent Breach of Confidence. *Mahomed*

*Reza Cawn* had however set out, and the Nabob was prevailed on by us to send his *Perwannah* for that Purpose. When he had subscribed to the Treaty, he was asked, when he chose to be seated on the *Mushnud*; then, or when *Mahomed Reza Cawn* arrived? He chose the latter, willing, and I believe altogether, to defer it, in daily Hopes of receiving *Sunnuds* from the King, from which Authority he rather wished to hold his Government. The Morning before we went to the *Kellah*, we acquainted the Nabob, that as we had particular Business to transact with him, it would be advisable that he should receive us in a private Apartment, and not in the *Dewan Connah*; and that no Mistake might happen in this Message, it was committed to Writing; nor did I ever see the Nabob, except the Day he was seated on the *Mushnud*, in any other Apartment than that in which he first received us. It is absolutely false, that he was told not to sit in his *Dewan Connah* till *Mahomed Reza Cawn*'s Arrival; that he must live in the Place he was; or that he must put a Stop to all Business. *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, I think, arrived the Third Day after our first Visit.

We found that People about the Nabob had endeavoured to inspire him with a Suspicion of our designing to seat *Mahomed Reza Cawn* on the *Mushnud*; but when we pointed out to him the Improbability of such Intent, and how needless our present Declarations in his Favour were, had we any such View, he seemed satisfied, and called on us to pledge our Honour to the Performance of the Treaty, which he read over Two or Three Times. He endeavoured to evade coming to any Point, wanted to consult *Nundcomar*, and to have him to bring the Paper of Advice of his deceased Father. We knew this was only to gain Time, and that a Delay would only increase every Difficulty we had to contend with. We replied we came not to treat with *Nundcomar*, but with him; that the Council and the *English* were heartily inclined to his Interest; and that he should only consider them as his Friends and Protectors. I do not recollect the Use of those Words about the Paper of Advice; but probably he was told it was his best Part to act conformably to the Council's Sentiments, fully expressed in the Treaty. After discussing over every Article of the Treaty Three or Four Times, and taking Pains to make him understand it, we pressed his Acceptance, and seemingly satisfied his principal Objection; still he desired to have *Nundcomar*'s Opinion; but when we saw he had been tutored to do nothing without his Concurrence, and that he was sure to encourage the Nabob to the warmest Opposition, we pointed out to him the Necessity of his complying with the Resolutions of the Board, and that we could not acknowledge him as *Soubah* till he had promised his Assent. This was not, I believe, told him in the Terms he has used, though it was my firm Opinion, and I believe it was the Board's, that he ought never to be acknowledged on any Terms that should still leave the sole Power in the Hands of *Nundcomar*, whose Character was even then at least a very doubtful one. He spoke at that Time very handsomely of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and only mentioned what he says about the *Dacca* Collections: He at last promised his Compliance. *Nundcomar* and others were called in, and upon their beginning to start Objections, they were told, we were not come to receive their Opinion, but to negotiate with the Nabob. Some one, I forget who, proposed that the Treaty with his Father should be sent for. Some of us remarked it was unnecessary, as the additional Articles had been particularly pointed out; however, the Treaty was brought. When it was first called for, we were told, a *Faqir* had the Treaty, who was sitting upon a *Mir Jaffer*'s Tomb, some Miles from the *Kellah*; but upon finding such Evasions would not avail, it was presently produced. No Moonshy was turned out, as mentioned by the Nabob, tho' one was checked for offering his Sentiments and Objections.

He then goes on to say, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has taken Twenty Laaks out of his Treasury, and distributed it without his Knowledge for securing his Nabiship: This is a most shameful Infination, and appears so indirectly levelled at those who supported this Measure, that I must take Notice of it, though done, I believe, solely with a View to injure *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. The Opinion I entertain of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Understanding and Integrity inclines me to believe this a groundless Assertion. If he has done so, I will allow I have mistaken his Character; and I can declare, and am ready to declare on Oath, that I have never received a single Rupee from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. The other Reflections thrown out on *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, he will, I hope, be able to clear up to the Board's Satisfaction; and if we consider the Struggle the Nabob has made to have that Villain *Nundcomar* still about him, no Man will be surpris'd at the Attack on *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, or those who promoted him; and when all Circumstances are taken into View, I can only be amazed to find such a seeming Degree of Credit given to the Nabob's Assertions, which, I think, must appear to every unprejudiced Person the Performance of *Nundcomar*, who has such an Influence over the Nabob, as to make him believe all those Enemies to himself who have been concerned in his Removal. Though Four Gentlemen were appointed on the Deputation, and concurred in every Measure, Mr. *Johnston* and I only are named: Mr. *Johnston* we are told was supposed to be privily at Enmity with *Nundcomar*; and I, who never, but the Day I took my Leave, saw the Nabob, except in the Presence of Messieurs *Johnston*, Senior, and *Midleton*, am particularly attacked, by Reason I suppose of my repeated Refusal of large Offers made me by *Nundcomar* for Support, and on Account of what immediately followed, regarding *Nundcomar*, when I returned to the Board; I am fully persuaded that *Nundcomar* is the sole Author of this Address from the Nabob; and am, I confess, very much provoked to think that that Villain shall entertain a momentary Hope of gratifying his Resentment by urging the Nabob to this Attack, for from himself I am positive, it could not have proceeded. All the Difficulties and all the Uneasiness we had in executing our Commission at the City proceeded from *Nundcomar* and his Creatures, as we repeatedly informed the Board. The Nabob of himself made but weak Objections, and such seemed removed by the Arguments we used, till he was again tutored by *Nundcomar*, when he would as flatly contradict himself as a Man possibly could; he complained to the Board very bitterly of our Proceedings about *Nundcomar*, when we were ordered to send him down; relates a long History, which he the Day before declared he had never heard of, and alleges that we obliged him to sign such a Paper as we thought proper. This was *Nundcomar's* last Struggle, at least it would have been the last, had not he and the Nabob been taught to expect an intire Change upon the Arrival of Lord *Clive* and the Committee. As the Nabob had Confidence enough to exclaim against us to the Board in such Terms, why failed he to add what he now urges? the Paper he says we forced from him regarded only *Nundcomar*. I am firmly persuaded, that the same Influence, which has on several Occasions led the Nabob into the most palpable Contradictions, has now urged him to these shameful Infinations, in Hopes of assisting *Nundcomar* by this Attack on those who promoted his Removal. No Confidence can be placed in his Word and Promise, so long as *Nundcomar* or his Creatures have Access to him; and I am satisfied if they were removed he would soon reflect on the Impropriety of his present Conduct, and repent of it.

I admit the Nabob was at first much averse to the Appointments the Board had made; whence arose it? From the Insinuations of *Nundcomar*, as I before said, that we really meant to place *Mahomed Reza Cawn* on

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the Mithnad; when he was convinced of our real Design, and had engaged us to pledge our Honours to the Performance of the Treaty, he appeared more satisfied, and would I believe have remained so, had he not been encouraged to expect the Release and Reinstatement of *Nundcomar* on Lord *Clive's* Arrival. And if we were necessitated to urge some Points in Terms we would wish to have avoided, we were drove to it by the Opposition we met with from *Nundcomar* and his Adherents. It was our Desire and our Aim to treat the Nabob with a becoming Respect; but the Struggles of those People to thwart every Measure the Board had recommended, obliged us now and then to enforce them in more positive Terms, and to explain to them the Mischief they would unavoidably draw upon themselves by such a Procedure, and how evidently they were sacrificing the Nabob's Welfare to their private Views. I always esteemed it a Contest with the Nabob's Officers, not with him; the executing the Service we were sent on alone engaged us in many disagreeable Altercations; and I am persuaded had we been less earnest it would not have been accomplished.

The Company have by this Treaty an additional Income confirmed to them of Sixty Lacks of Rupees *per Annum*, have the whole Military Force of the Province in their own Hands, and have obtained the Power of interfering more or less in the Affairs of Government, and Nomination of its Officers, as Circumstances may render necessary for their Welfare and Success: More they can scarce wish; and in my Opinion a less Influence could not have been insisted on without a Sacrifice of their Interest; had *Nazem o Dowla* been once acknowledged by the Board Subah, on the Terms of, or without any additional Articles to, his Father's Treaty, neither Justice nor Honour could have afterwards warranted our imposing on him any other Terms; but when the Government was become vacant, which could only be secured to *Nazem o Dowla* by the Power of the Company's Force, we had a Right to prescribe such Condition for that Support as seemed most conducive to their Welfare, on which the Nabob's indeed does now so intimately depend; where no public Treaties of Promises are infringing, no Tie, no Regard to *Mir Jaffer's* Family can stand in Competition with their Interests; and I esteem myself happy in having had a Share in confirming to the Company such desirable Benefits.

R. Lyster.

The President now informs the Board, that he summoned their Meeting To-day, in order to lay before them an Extract of the Proceedings of a Select Committee held the 16th Instant, in Consequence of the Resolution Record in their last, communicated to the Board, which he does accordingly, and the same having been perused is returned to him.

Some Debate passing thereupon, on the Subject of receiving Presents from the Government, and the Officers of it;

Mr. *Johnston* desires the Question, Whether the Acceptance of all Presents is improper? may be put severally to the Members of the Board for their Opinions.

The same being put accordingly;

Mr. *Burdett* is of Opinion, That such Presents may be received or not, according to the particular Circumstances. That the Nabob has a Right to dispose of his own Property; and that the Presents on the Occasion in Question might with great Propriety be received.

Mr. *Lyster*, That where they are not the Price of Services they may very properly be received.

Mr. *Sykes*, That Presents at all Times from the Nabob or his Officers are very improper, as tending to the Prejudices of the Company's Interests.

Mr. *Johnston* minutes it as his Opinion, That where they are not the Price of unworthy Services, and no Trust is betrayed for the Acceptance of them, is no Way improper; and in the present Case, as being pre-

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vious to the Execution of the Deed of Covenant, as warrantable as in Time past, by any who have received them.

Mr. *Vereft* is of Opinion, That the receiving of Presents, at a Time the Board are doing their Duty in supporting the Government, and in the Interest of the Company, is highly improper, and the more so in the present Instance, since he is informed that the Company's Orders and Covenants were arrived in *Calcutta* before the Tender of them.

Mr. *Playdell* agrees in the Opinion given by Mr. *Lycester*.

Mr. *Sumner* is of Opinion, That the Acceptance of Presents after the Receipt of the Company's Orders to the contrary, and the Covenants, was very improper.

The President's.

That no Presents whatever ought to have been accepted after the Receipt of the Covenants, except in the Manner specified therein.

*Fort William, the 11th June 1765.*

Mr. *Lycester* now delivers in the following Minute on the Subject of the last Select Committee Proceedings perused at the Board.

When the Company's Interest were altogether secured, and the Orders of the Board fully executed, it is very true that I accepted of a Present from the Nabob; I never made a Secret of it, as the Custom of this Country on such Occasions, well known to every Body, sanctifies the Acceptance; and where Presents have not been esteemed the Price of improper Services, I never heard a Reflection cast on those who did receive them. I went up to the City without the Thought of any private Emolument, presuming the Benefit I had to inflict on, for the Company, would render me too obnoxious to be considered as others have been on like Occasions; many have felt the Benefits of such a Custom, and when I had done my Duty to the Company, I thought myself at Liberty to accept a Present from the Nabob, which I am confident can in no Shape prove injurious to the Company; whilst the Settlement of the Government was under Consideration, I declined every Overture that was made; many knew that such were made in *Calcutta*, and honourably refused. Mr. *Spencer*, though he afterwards accepted an Offer of Two Lacks from the Nabob, refused a previous one of Eleven Lacks; this Offer alone considerably exceeded the Whole of what the Nabob afterwards gave, and might have been received by Mr. *Spencer*, could he have been brought to think it consistent with the Interest of the Company to have deferred for a short Time the Settlement of the Government Affairs. The Man who came down from the City to make this Offer to Mr. *Spencer*, waited also on me with the same Intent; he told me he had particular Business, and desired me to allow his coming to me in a more private Manner, which I declined, as I knew his Errand, and was resolved not to accept any Offer he could make. Again, while I was at the City, Offers were repeatedly made me from *Nundomar* on the Part of the Nabob, as well as of himself, which I as oft refused; and as I gave no Encouragement to such Messages, no particular Sums were named, but it was said they should be such as would fully satisfy me, if I would but endeavour to keep Things in the State they were. And it is certain, if we had let quiet in *Calcutta*, immense Fortunes might have been made, could we have brought ourselves to accept them on such Terms.

All previous Offers having been thus refused, it was intimated to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, when the Business was all settled, that he might hint to the Nabob, that our former Objections no longer subsisting, we were ready to receive any Marks of his Favour, as the Nabob's previous Offers were a Proof of his Intent to make Presents. These

Intimations did not seem improper; I know of no Arguments being used, to make *Mahomed Reza Cawn* think he would have offended us by declining this; and, if I recollect right, he told us the first Motion came from the Nabob; when the Paper was presented by the Nabob, we more than once told him we wanted no such Offer, if it was not entirely with his own Inclination, which he repeatedly assured us it was; and I am confident the Gifts to us were the real Consequence of Custom on like Occasions.

*Mahomed Reza Cawn* made the Offer he speaks of, but I did not know that the Arguments he mentions were made Use of to him; when every Thing which regarded *Mahomed Reza Cawn* appeared settled, I thought there could be no Impropriety in my Acceptance of his Offers; but afterwards, when I recollected that his Appointment might one Day or other become a Matter of Contest, I resolved not to give the smallest Room for any Imputation of my being improperly influenced, and therefore declined accepting a Bill of Fifty thousand Rupees which he sent me down; I never took it into my Possession, and as a Proof that I did not intend it, I subscribed to the Covenants while I had so large a Sum in my Power; and I could produce Letters in Testimony of my Resolution not to receive it; if *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has not been properly advised of this my Resolution, it has not been owing to any Mistake of mine. As to *Juggut Seaf*'s, I say, that before I left *Musadadwad*, it had been intimated that he was desirous of making a Present, and that his Father had made Presents on like Occasions with a View to raise the Credit of his House. We had treated *Juggut Seaf* with particular Respect and Civility, but I saw no Reason for such Offers; I always understood they came first from him, and am totally ignorant of the Arguments he mentions having been used to induce him to make them. This I know of *Juggut Seaf*'s Offer, when I returned to *Calcutta*, and Ten Thousand Rupees for his House was afterwards received on my Account. It has always been my Opinion, that in a Country not under the most absolute Tyranny, every Man's Property was at his own Disposal, and every one was at Liberty to accept what was offered without Fear or Compulsion, the same not being a Consideration for improper Services: The adopting opposite Maxims is contrary to the known Practice of those who have gone before us; and though absolute Orders, with a Penalty annexed, may make the receiving the Presents improper and inconvenient, yet they cannot alter the Rectitude of the Act itself; and I will venture to appeal to the common Sentiments of Mankind, which I am persuaded will condemn that Man as a very absurd one, who, having an Opportunity of obtaining a comfortable Maintenance for no dishonourable Sacrifice, should decline the Occasion.

However, I do not see with what Candour or Propriety any Body can enquire into a Circumstance of this kind; if *Juggut Seaf* had been oppressed, he knew, or should be told, that his Appeal was to the Board. It does not appear he of himself made any such Complaint; if leading Questions were put, they were improper, he would from thence discover that such an Intimation of what he gave would be agreeable; and I would be glad to know if he was not called on to commit these Circumstances to Writing.

I think the Committee did only their Duty in laying before the Board the Nabob's Address to them, but that the subsequent Measures should have been taken in the Presence of, and with the Concurrence of, the Board. The Committee summoning any Persons before them, to impeach the Members of this Board, is in my Opinion extremely improper.

If any Interest of the Company has been sacrificed to private Views, it is incumbent on every good Servant to point out such Misconduct; but where Presents have not been accepted for any such Sacrifice, I am



sure it is doing the Company no Service to be making such minute Researches into Occurrences of this Kind, unless Complaints of Oppression are first made, and then the Enquiry should be as free and open as possible.

It is true that the Covenants had arrived before these Presents were accepted, which the then Governor and Council, for Reasons they would have assigned to the Company, thought proper to defer putting in Force. Many Instances of a like Deviation may be quoted, without incurring the Displeasure of our honourable Masters, as I trust will be the present Case.

Since the Contents which have prevailed amongst the Proprietors at Home, the Orders from the Court of Directors have been so fluctuating, that it has really been difficult to collect the Sentiments that were to guide our Conduct Abroad.

It has been intimated that the Covenants were rather the Effect of Party, than the cool Sentiments of our Masters; and I have heard it was probable, Parties would unite in abolishing Covenants, that could only injure Individuals, and do the Company no Service. And indeed, had these been executed, without Assurances of the Inland Trade being put on a proper Footing, no Man could have honestly got a Competence in their Service; a strict Observance of the Order about the Inland Trade had very materially injured many of our Fortunes, and that even at a Time when the Orders were repeated. We might as well expect the abolishing the Covenants; and why, in a second Instance, were we to lay ourselves under Restrictions unknown to any of our Predecessors, at a Time when it was possible the very Orders for that Purpose were revoked. I urge these as Arguments which probably might induce the then Governor and Council not to enforce the Covenants, and in Opposition to the Strefs which some Members of the Board lay on the supposed Breach of those Orders, had the Authority then subsisting thought proper to put them in Force, Obedience would have been my Part; and I believe, tho' the Company's Orders about the Inland Trade, and Tassals, were well known to the Servants, that no Individual judged them obligatory on himself till the Board's Orders in Consequence were issued.

When the Nabob complained of the Proceedings of the Deputation of this Board, it was very proper his Letter to the Committee should be laid before the Board; and the Nabob should at the same Time have been informed, that the Power of censuring the Members of this Board rested only with the President and Council, from whom he might expect all possible Protection and Redress.

*Mahomed Reza Cawn* should have been examined in Presence of the Board only, on the Nabob's Charge of his having distributed, unknown to him, Twenty Laaks for the Purchase of his present Employ.

Beyond the Charge that there was made, Nothing should have been sought for or enquired into. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had been led to the Mention of Circumstances he would wish to have concealed, and, as well as I can recollect or know, has been mistaken in Part of his Detail. Where Charges are made, Justice to the Accused or Accuser demands an Examination; but it should not be the Business of any Person to be seeking Occasions of this Kind.

On the Whole, if I have received Presents, I have sacrificed no Interests of the Company's in order to obtain them; the Presents that were made me, I conceived to be willingly and voluntarily made; if it has been otherwise, the first Injury has been done me, in not making it known to me. My declining to receive the Fifty Thousand Rupees sent by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, from a Determination not to give the least Room to suppose me improperly influenced, and my Refusal of repeated Offers made through *Nundcomar*, are very

strong presumptive Proofs, that I would not benefit my Fortune by any Means that I thought could possibly be deemed improper.

R. Lylester.

Fort William, the 17th June 1765.

Mr. Lylester delivers in the following further Minute on the Proceedings of the Select Committee of the 7th and 8th Instant.

The Proceedings of the Select Committee of the 7th, wherein the Evidence of one *Mootyram* is recited, would seem to imply a supposed Collusion in my Refusal of *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Bill for Rs. 50,000, which obliges me to remark further, that I firmly believe the Man was never authorized to deliver the Message mentioned, but to return the Bill unconditionally into the Hands of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. Nothing ever passed between me and *Mootyram*, *Buffantroy*, or any of his People, on the Subject of this Bill; but I did imagine it had been received back by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

No such Conversation as mentioned in *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Narrative, N° 1, ever passed in my Presence. I have already declared myself ignorant of the Arguments related in *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Narrative, N° 2, having been used to induce him to make Presents. I always believed his Offer came first from himself; but as much Strefs seems laid on the Bill's having been tendered by *Mootyram* the Day before this Narrative was laid before the Board, I must observe that I know not of such Bills having been issued by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* till the 5th May; that on the 9th I signed the Covenants, and on the 15th I wrote to a Gentleman at *Cosimbuzar*, That if the Whole of the Nabob's Offer had not been paid, none was to have been received after that Day, a Proof that I would not have been guilty of a Breach of them; and it is evident I had not received the Bill in Question. On the 22d, I wrote to the same Gentleman in the following Words:

You know the Objections I made at *Muxadabad* to receive a Present from the Quarter you mention; they appear as strong as ever; for though it would not in the least bias my Conduct, I would not put it in any Body's Power to suppose a View to it could have had Influence in the Choice of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, whose Abilities and Character were my sole Inducement for wishing to have so large a Share of the Government under him. The Draft you mention was sent down; but I decline the Acceptance of it, though I have yet been silent to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, lest he should apprehend, from my Refusal at this Time, a Resolution to forsake him, as is a common Notion in this Country. I have not a Thought, however, to accept it.

The Bill had never been put into my Hands, nor in the Hands of any of my People. The Person who acquainted me that *Mootyram* had such, was desired to direct him to return them; and, as I never heard more of them, I did believe *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had Possession of them, till his Narrative was laid before the Board.

I must particularly remark on the Minute entered on Close of the Committee Proceedings of the 7th by Desire of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, That I never heard him mention a Syllable about a Present from himself; that I never knew he asked if the Present he proposed was to be a general Affair, or if the other Gentlemen of Council were to have a Share; or that he was answered, This must be for us; let them look to themselves. He says the Deputies made this Reply; I declare, I never knew of such Question, or such Reply.

I had heard the Nabob intended Presents; but I knew not the Sum allotted me till *Mahomed Reza Cawn* presented the Paper, by Order of the Nabob,

who, I conceived, had himself assigned that particular Sum.

There is no one Circumstance collected through the Whole of their Enquiries, which I know of, that I would not have communicated, had I been properly called on; and though the disagreeable Terms, in which it has been endeavoured to disclose the Secret of these Presents, of which no Secret was made, has obliged me to insist particularly on my declining to accept *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Bill; yet, considering the Manner and Time it was offered to me, I should not have thought the Acceptance any Ways dishonourable.

As Nothing passed personally between me and the *Scots*, so as to make me quite positive that the Present he made was with his own Inclinations, though I never before had a Doubt of it; and as the Messages said to be delivered by *Achayan* implies some Unwillingness on his Part; I acquaint the Board, that my Intention was, to order back to the *Scot's* House what was thence received on my Account, and am ready to make Oath, that I was totally ignorant of the Message said to be delivered to the *Scots* on this Subject.

The Declarations I have already made, touching this Matter, and my declining to accept *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Bill for 50,000 Rupees, which I might, if I had chose, been this Moment in Possession of, will, I shall presume, sufficiently evince the Rectitude of my Intentions through the Whole of this Transaction.

R. Lyster.

Messrs. Playdell and Gray also entered the following Minutes on the Whole of the Proceedings on the same Subject.

Observing my Name inserted, with other Gentlemen's, in a Paper laid before the Board the 7th Instant, containing a List of several Sums of Money the Nabob complains have been distributed by *Mahomed Reza Cawn* without his Knowledge amongst different Gentlemen; as I am entirely ignorant of such unjust Measures having been taken, and cannot suppose it to be true, I desire to vindicate my own Character, and clear myself of such an Allegation, by declaring I knew Nothing of the Matter until informed by a Gentleman of the Board, that it was the Nabob's Intentions to make the Council a Present; and, as I understood this was entirely the free Will of the Nabob, I, on that Account, received what was sent me, I knowing it to be on no other Footing whatever.

C. St Playdell.

Mr. Gray's Name being inserted in the Paper laid before the Board by the President, on the 7th Instant, relative to Presents from the Nabob, he solemnly declares, that no Request or Solicitation was made on his Part to obtain any Present or Gratification whatever; nor was he informed that a Present was intended, till it was actually tendered. He further assures the Board, he would not have accepted of it, had he not been fully satisfied it flowed from the Nabob's free Inclination. He knew not of, and never should have consented to have used, Persuasion, far less Threats, to obtain Presents from any Person, and he has all along entertained too good an Opinion of the Members of this Board, to suppose any of them capable of such an underhand Proceeding. However, if Allegations of this Nature are laid to the Charge of any, they cannot affect those Gentlemen who, being in *Calcutta*, could have no Opportunity of using improper Means to acquire Presents; and that they did not, appears very evidently from what *Mahomed Reza Cawn* observes in the latter Part of his Declaration to the Select Committee.

It can never be thought, that, for this Gratification, he gave up a single Advantage he could have acquired for the honourable Company. He was a Member of

that Board who procured an additional yearly Revenite of Eighty Lacks of Rupees to the Possessions they held before; making, with these, in all, at least One Million Eight hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling *per Annum*. Had the Gentlemen of Council been disposed to spare the Nabob in his Assignments, he would have given them much larger Sums, and no Complaints would have made their Appearance.

Certain therefore, that what he received was the Effect of the Nabob's free Will, he perceived no Impropriety in benefitting by his Excellency's Bounty, on an Occasion where former Precedents have warranted the Acceptance, and where his Conscience could not tax him with the smallest Breach of the Trust reposed in him by his Employers. It is true, the Covenants had come to Hand some Time before Mr. Gray's Arrival from *Madras*; but they had not been executed by any of the Board, all of whom concurred in deeming them the greatest Severity the honourable Company could impose on their Servants, and agreed to write Home a Remonstrance to our Employers, setting forth the particular Hardship; not doubting but, on a due Representation, they would repeal them: This they were encouraged to hope from several Instances of Orders detrimental to the Company's Servants having been reversed on a proper Application. However, the Attention of the Board being deeply engaged on the Transactions subsequent to the late Nabob's Death, the taking the Covenants into Consideration was postponed, and never resumed till Lord Clive's Arrival. Mr. Gray considered the Covenants as meant to be a Check upon Fraud, or rendering the Government Services with a View of some pecuniary Gratification, without considering the Company's Advantage. But, in laying this Restriction on those they might suspect base enough to betray their Trust for a Bribe, they have also cut off from their honest and faithful Servants of the present Standing, the Advantages which were enjoyed without Restriction by those of former Times; a Particular of Severity with which Mr. Gray cannot believe the honourable Company meant to stigmatize or to distress the present Set of Servants; for our Employers must entertain a reproachful Opinion of us, if they believe the Restraint of Conscience, heretofore considered a sufficient Tie on the Conduct of our Predecessors in the Service, is not enough to bind our Hands from doing them Injustice; and to cut off from their Servants every Source of Benefit which their Service affords, is surely distressing them in the severest Degree. The Salt and Inland Trade was some Time ago very beneficial; but the Company, believing it was a principal Occasion of, although he is convinced it was in Fact only a Pretext for, the War with *Mir Cassim*, seemed determined to reduce it, and deprive us of that Source. The foreign Marine Trade was once a Fund of Advantage to the Company's Servants, but that was before *Surga Dowla's* War, when Commerce flourished both in *Bengal* and in the *Marts* Abroad; since that Time, the internal Commotions in which these Countries, wherein the principal Part of our Trade used to be carried on, as well as *Bengal* itself, have been involved, have rendered that Branch so very precarious, that Voyages miscarry as often as succeed; and the Company's Servants, especially those stationed at subordinate Factories, labour under particular Inconvenience in this Trade; for through Want of Time and Opportunity to apply to it properly, and to inform themselves of every Requisite for carrying it on, the free Merchants have the greatest Advantage over them. The latter are at Liberty to proceed on their Voyages, and can themselves dispose of, or purchase, Goods to the best Account at the foreign Markets, thereby saving many Charges, as well as devoting that Care and Attention to their own Concerns which can scarcely be expected from Agents; whom we

are under the Necessity of employing: Very different was the Situation of the Gentlemen of the Service, in that Period he has mentioned, from the present; secure in their Persons and Properties, and enjoying a profound Tranquillity, they saw the Profits of their Trade coming in regularly to them; but ever since Mr. Gray has had the Honour to serve the Company, there has been almost a constant Series of Warfare in Bengal; he has been Witness to Two Revolutions, wherein the greatest Part of his most intimate Friends have fallen the unfortunate Victims of Moorish Barbarity; at both Times, his Life in such imminent Danger, that he can attribute his Escape from the unhappy Fate that attended his Fellow-Servants, to the Interposition of Providence alone; his Property seized by the rapacious, relentless Enemy; his Circumstances brought to the lowest Brink of Ruin, not only by the Loss of his own Fortune, but also by the Accumulation of a heavy Debt taken up in the Course of his Trade, for which he was answerable, without the Means left to discharge it, his Health destroyed by the Fatigues and Hardships he underwent, and himself reduced to the utmost Distress and Misery, as well from Affliction from the Sufferings of those he held most dear to him, as from the Consideration of his own Misfortunes, the very Idea of what he has endured shocks his Recollection, and the Precariousness of his Situation, and the Vicissitudes to which he has been subjected, have painted forth Independence to him in too desirable Colours to admit of his Self-Denial, when he can obtain it without the least Deviation from that Integrity and Fidelity to the Interest of his Employers, which he has ever made the Rule of his Conduct; nor could it have been expected, that whilst his Hands were not tied up by those Covenants to which his Will did not consent, and which, though ordered, he did not conceive to be so positively enjoined as totally to exclude all Expostulation, and even without any Penalty in Case of Refusal, from whence it might be inferred, the Company would not insist on their Execution, if their Servants were from reasonable Motives averse from them. Under these Circumstances, Mr. Gray says, it could not be expected, that he would reject a Present offered to his Hands from a Government that could very well afford it; he considered it as some Compensation for his Sufferings, as well as for the Deficiency in his Losses not made up by the public Restitution; for, although it is true, that after our Enemies were drove out of the Provinces, Restitution was allowed for the Damages we had sustained, yet it was on a Footing that still left the Sufferers considerable Losers; the Goods plundered or destroyed were rated at the prime Cost and Charges, and a very unequal Advantage for Risk, with an Allowance of Ten per Cent. on the Whole for Interest. This Valuation of the Goods was very short of the Price they would have sold at, and the Allowance was less than a Third Part of the real Interest; for it is now above Three Years that we have laid out of our Money, and but One Year's Interest is given. He means not here to blame those Gentlemen who stipulated the Terms of this Restitution, for he thinks the Whole of our Losses was more than the Nabob could then bear to discharge; but he states the Case fairly betwixt the Government and himself; and if what he has lost by them be compared to what is set down to his Account, in the End he would have to receive a Balance.

On the Whole, Mr. Gray, deprived, as he believed, of the only Trade by which he could raise any Benefit, and unprovided for by the honourable Company with an Allowance adequate to his necessary Expences, accepted of the Present offered him, on Conviction it was intirely consistent both with his Duty and his Honour. He hopes that what he has urged will prove satisfactory to his Employers, and procure him their Consent and Approbation.

George Gray.

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Mr. Burdett likewise enters the following Minute:

As Mr. Playdell and Mr. Gray have thought it necessary to clear up their Characters from the Imputation of having extorted Presents from the Nabob, I likewise beg Leave to inform the Board that I looked upon the 50,000 Rupees sent me as a voluntary Gift from the Nabob, and in such Light only I received it; the Manner in which it was paid will I presume sufficiently exculpate me from that heavy Charge of Extortion. I must ingenuously confess, that had Ten Times the Sum been offered in the same Manner I received the first, and my Covenants not signed, I should without the least Scruple have received it, well satisfied that I was doing no more than those who came before me; nor should I then have acknowledged the Power of any Committee to arraign my Conduct, unless they shewed me a special Power for that Purpose from those only whom I esteem my Masters.

John Burdett.

Mr. Johnson having, agreeably to his Application, received the Copies of the whole Proceedings, sends in his Answer to them in the following Minute:

The Select Committee have been pleased to lay before the Board several Narratives of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggusset*, touching Presents that have been made to sundry Gentlemen by the Nabob, and which in their Proceedings they call Evidence of the greatest Consequence.

As no Complaint was made, either before or now, to the Board, by either *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Juggusset*, or the Nabob, against the Gentlemen therein mentioned, that any unfair Means or Compulsion had been used towards obtaining these Presents, nor any Redress sued for, I am at a Loss to know whose Suit I am to reply to, or to whom as Judges I am accountable. The Nabob's Addresses and Letters to the Select Committee, accusing *Mahomed Reza Cawn* of having given away without his Knowledge 20 Lacks of Money and Goods to different People to secure him in his Nabiship; this was laid before the Board, and it rested with *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to disprove this, and to shew he had issued no Money against the Nabob's Inclination, but with his Consent, and Order under his Hand and Seal.

The Committee however, assuming as it would appear the Office of Inquisitors, call upon *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to declare before them on Oath, not only to the Matter laid against him, but whatever else he knew, or they pleased to ask, touching his own Concerns: From him, overawed by the Opinion of their supreme Power, on which his Post and Honours depend, and that nothing of Consequence now rests with the Council, they extort what they call Evidence of the greatest Consequence.

*Juggusset*, in like Manner, without having made any Complaint of Oppression, Compulsion, or any Injury being done his Business, is called upon for his Evidence on his Observation of Messages being delivered; they being sent as represented is false, and can never be proved. The Committee would ground a Charge of which they would become the Judges, and are themselves the Complainants.

To support these Evidences thus procured, *Moostrom*, who is mentioned as the Person intrusted by the Gentlemen, is arrested at Calcutta by a Party of *Stapays*, confined close Prisoner in his House under a Sergeant's Guard, with all the Terrors attending a Man already convicted and condemned of capital Offences; thence he is brought next Day, with his military Guards attending him, and ignorant of our Laws and Rights, obliged, contrary to all Law, to swear that he will answer all the Questions they shall please to put to him, whether to get him to betray the Confidence they imagine may

have been reported in him, or that might tend to condemn himself.

*Buffantroy*, his Duan, supposed also intrusted by *Moostaram*, is in like Manner seized by *Scopays*, and under this Terror and Confusion hurried before his Accusers and Judges, and obliged to give Evidence on Oath to all Questions put to him to betray the Secrets of his Master, or make against himself.

Had *Moostaram* been accused of any capital Crime, or of having done any Thing contrary to Law, if subject to be tried by the Laws of our Country, under the *English* Flag, and by *Englishmen* acting with a lawful Authority as his Judges, we presume in an open and public Manner, he ought to have had his Indictment, and been allowed Counsel, a Liberty never denied to any under the Protection of the *English* Government, and who has like him a House and Family within their Land, instead of being shut up, and denied Communication with any but with his menial Servants; Counsel was allowed *Ramaburn*, and I believe to others tried before the honourable Board, and *Nundomar* was promised an open and fair Trial.

*Moostaram*, though he is in the present Employ of the Nabob, has his House and Family in the Company's District, and under the Company's Protection, in whose Service he has been for many Years. He is not impeached by the Nabob, nor any Charge laid against him in particular that appears; but if he were, a fair Trial, had the Nabob submitted him to the Committee as his Judge, was what he had a Right to expect, and that he should not be thus compelled by Force, Imprisonment, and Fear of his Life or Honour, to give Evidence that might make against himself, or in order to be brought as a Proof against any Subject of *Britain*, and enjoying the Rights and Protection of her Laws and Liberties. I do therefore, for myself, object to and deny such Evidence, and enter my solemn Protest against every Matter or Evidence that has been and shall be obtained from either *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Juggutseet*, *Moostaram*, *Buffant Roy*, or any other Person, where such undue Influence, unlawful Means, and Violence, has been or shall be used to get them to declare or to answer on Oath to all Queries that should be put to them while under Restraint, Imprisonment, and Fear; and that I will answer to no Charge or Imputation founded on such. I think it proper, however, to declare, and am ready to take my Oath, that I never did authorize *Moostaram* or any other Person to ask Presents of *Juggutseet* in improper or unlawful Terms, or by any Threats or Insinuations that his Business should otherwise meet the smallest Impediment or Obstruction from us; and that no Compulsion or Violence was with my Knowledge ever made Use of or intended, to induce him to give any Presents.

If the Nabob, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and *Juggutseet*, had ever complained of themselves, and could prove, that I had by Force or Threats extorted, or by unfair Means obtained, Presents from them; or if it could be shewn wherein I neglected or sacrificed the Company's Interest, and the Business I was intrusted with on this Occasion, with a View to such Consideration; or that I did not support it to the utmost of my Power, or had done or promised any dishonourable Service; I should then have thought it incumbent on me, and readily would have put myself on my Defence, and justified my Conduct agreeably to the Laws of my Country, and the Constitution of the Company. But when I see the Honour and Credit of the Council trampled upon, inasmuch that not one Man belonging to the Country Government, of Distinction, since the Committee were formed, had dared to receive or pay Visits from or to the Members of the Council, from a Notion that has been propagated that they have now no Authority, and are made Dependants on the Committee; when the Select Committee usurp Authority they have no Right to; where I see Force and Violence take Place of Law

and Liberty; where military Guards and Imprisonment appear, and to overawe and extort Evidence; I must beg leave to decline for the present to plead my Cause; before a Tribunal and Judges whose Laws and Rights we know not the Bounds of, and whose Powers, the President has declared, is what their own Will shall think fit to assign, or in Words to the same Purport.

It seems the Aim of the Committee to render the Proceedings of the late President and Council if possible obnoxious, instead of striving to promote the Cordiality so much to be wished. To what Causes must we attribute this Temper of the Committee; one would almost think they were piqued to find the Interest of the Company so well secured before their Arrival; only they must know that their coming at all was doubtful, and the Gentlemen who had felt the Defects of the former Treaty, were full as well qualified to remedy them in the new one, and have no Doubt their Masters will approve their Services. I have heard that the Governor has expressed much Chagrin that the Affair of his Jaghire has been settled according to his Agreement with the Company without his Interposition, though a better Opportunity could not have occurred to get it done. Mr. *Spencer*, than whose Merit none stands in a fairer Light with the Company, was, if I may so call him, the Darling of that Party which in *England* opposed Lord *Clive* and the Gentlemen of the Committee; any Attack of him or his Measures is an Attack on the Party who espoused him; and though I would not assert that any such Sentiments influence any Member of the Board, yet I cannot help being surprised at the uncommon Neglect and Disregard shewn to Mr. *Spencer* by Lord *Clive*, though he joined with the Board in Thanks to Mr. *Spencer* for the Zeal he had shewn for the Company's Welfare. I cannot help in this Place noticing the late Treatment of *Nundomar*; the Board, before the Change in our Administration, had such strong Reason to suspect *Nundomar* of ill Designs against our Government, and ill advising the Nabob, that it was thought of the utmost Importance to have so dangerous a Person immediately removed from him; he was accordingly sent down and confined in *Calcutta*, and Witnesses were summoned from *Patna* and other Places to support that Charge; notwithstanding this Resolution of the Board, he was immediately allowed Access to the Nabob on his Arrival in *Calcutta*, without any Reasons being assigned to the Board for a Conduct so directly opposite to their Sentiments, and I think they should be strong ones to justify so extraordinary a Deviation. The Witnesses too have been returned without any Trial or Examination that we yet know of; and now again I find it has been deemed expedient to forbid *Nundomar* Access to the Nabob. Their Inconsistencies I shall wish to see accounted for, more particularly as I think the Sentiments of a former Administration on such a Subject merited more Consideration and Respect; and I must further remark, that though the Gentlemen of the Committee, from their long Absence from *India*, could not possibly be at first proper Judges of the Company's Affairs and Interests, they have never on any Occasion consulted with, or asked the Sentiments of, the Board. With regard to Presents in general, we have the approved Example of the President, Lord *Clive* himself, for our Guide, who though this Nabob's Father's Princely Bounty, on his coming to the Government, had made his Fortune easy, and the Company's Welfare his only Motive for staying in *India*, yet acknowledges his having made Use of the Influence of *Juggutseet* to apply for a Jaghire, which though amounting to £. 30,000 *per Annum*, was not thought improper by him to accept of, even in the Circumstances of Distress he then represents the old Nabob to have been in, his Life twice saved from his Troops mutinying for their Arrears, only by the Awe of our Arms, and large Balances then due to the Company, which were not at all paid till after the Revolution 1760.

The Committee have been at great Pains to lay open to the Public what Sums have been paid to the Gentlemen of the Deputation and Council on this Occasion. We think it will appear strange however that what they have received alone should be scrutinized into with such fervent Zeal, while the Sums that was bestowed on others now and heretofore not also specified; these, by the same Methods that the Committee have proceeded, may doubtless be obtained. The attending and confining under Guards those intrusted and employed on the Occasion; they appeal to the World if *Ramchurn Roy*, who his Lordship certified served him entirely to his Satisfaction; if *Caja Peirais*, *Nabkessen* Munshi, *Nundumar*, or any other of those able Conveyancers, were to be seized, and confined close Prisoners, and made to answer, whether they willed or not, on Oath to every Question that a future Committee or Governor and Council should put to them, as to the Sums their Masters have received; or if the Books of the Nabob's Treasury, from the Time that *Meer Jaffer* got the Government down to this Day, were to be referred to as Proof, as they have been now by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, whether those Gentlemen who have hitherto raised immense Fortunes by the Nabob's Bounty and Treasure, would think themselves well used by such Violence and Force used on those that were intrusted by them, or by a Retrospect and Scrutiny into their Proceedings, where no Complaint has been offered by the People who were alone concerned to make it against them, or whether we should have much Cause to be ashamed by such a Contrast.

We should be glad to know what Gentlemen in the military or civil, from Colonel *Clive* down to this Day, that have had the Opportunity, and have not received Presents while in their Power, and no Duty stood in Opposition, so it; we do not infer they were improperly biased by it, or that there was any Thing in the receiving of those customary Acknowledgements dishonourable; the Custom of the Country, and the Example of Men of the best Characters sanctify it; but I beg Leave to compare, in some Respects, our Proceeding and that of some who now so rigorously, and with so much Malevolence, call our Conduct in Question. At the Time the Rupture with *Serajab Dowlah*, and the setting up *Meer Jaffer Aly Khan* was mediating, I succeeded to Mr. *Spencer* in the Station of *Persian* Translator for carrying on the Correspondence with the Country Government, under Lord *Clive*; Mr. *Lushington* was appointed to assist under me; I continued in this Office for some Months, and wrote the very last Letter that was sent to *Serajab Dowlah*, informing of our setting out to meet him.

During this Period Mr. *Sheraton* returned from the City with the secret Negotiations concerned with *Meer Jaffer Aly Khan*; it was thought to contain Matters too delicate for me to be intrusted with, but my Assistant was called in; and he, with the rest of the Committee, took their Oaths of Secrecy. I appeal to those Gentlemen if it was not then that the Terms of the Treaty with *Meer Jaffer Aly Khan* was adjusted, and that the Sums agreed for the Secret Committee, as well as for the other Accounts, were settled before the Army was ordered to move.

The Day the Troops embarked I was told by Colonel *Clive* to return and do my Duty in the Artillery; I did, and I believe was the only Person that had acted under the Colonel during that Negotiation that was afterwards omitted in the Nabob's private Bounty, when the Affair was crowned with Success. Mr. *Sheraton*, who supplanted me, from being not worth a Shilling, got a Fortune; Mr. *Lushington*, my Assistant, had 30,000 Rupees, with Numbers of others of the Colonel's Friends, who, as well as himself, became easy in their Fortunes from the Bounty of that very Nabob, who it was reported could not find Money in the Treasury to pay the Sums publicly stipulated for the Company,

Restitution, Navy, and Army, to be paid on his being put in Possession, but the Half deferred to be paid within a Term of Three Years, and by Assignments, at last, on the Revenues of the Provinces. This affected the Army and Navy in the Discount they were necessitated on this Pretext to allow the Company for advancing their Shares in ready Money; the Restitution Sufferers lost the Interest and Advantage they would have had of their Money, if then paid, besides running the Risk of never receiving Part of it at all; and the Company depended on the Success of the War for Three Years to secure their Balance.

After we had executed the Service we were sent upon in Behalf of the Company, without any Promise or Prospect of Reward, while the Nabob was under no Incumbrances; was not behind in the Kistbunds for the Army or Restitution; Laaks lying in his Treasury in Calcutta; let the World judge whether we might receive Presents, or his Lordship and Friends Sums infinitely larger, Eight Years ago, and the Jagheer afterwards, with the greatest Propriety.

The Gentlemen who made the Treaty with *Meer Cossim*, claim some Merit in having then rejected his Offer, which was not to have been discharged till the Debts *Jaffer Aly Khan* left still owing to the Company, and the Arrears to the Troops, were paid; yet I never heard any of these Gentlemen pretend they would not receive it afterwards, nor can some of them, I believe, say they did not.

I think then, I may apply the noble Lord's own Observation; That I believe it would have appeared absurd, after so many Years Services, after having risked my Life so often, and let me add, after the Reverses I have lately experienced, had I refused this only honourable Opportunity that ever was likely to offer of becoming independent, and to have trusted to the future kind Offices of Lord *Clive*.

At the same Time the Nabob conferred these Favours on us, there was a Demand on him for the Money of the Jagheer, which the Nabob had received since the Company stopped the Payment of it to Lord *Clive*. In regard to this, some Observations have occurred to me, which I have not yet heard solved. The Copies of the *Dewanee Sunnud* of the Nabob *Merr Mahomed Seadue Khan*, which was given to the Deputies from the Secretary's Office, takes Notice, that, in Consequence of the Nabob *Jaffer Aly Khan* having signed on the Furd Sual, the Furd Hucakeet and Mutchulca had also been signed to. Now these Five Papers are all connected and annexed to one another, the *Sunnud*, *Decannic Zaemmien*, *Furd Sual*, *Furd Hucakeet*, and *Mutchulca*. The *Furd Sual* represents, that *Sabut Jung*, Colonel *Clive*, having been honoured with the Rank of 6,000 and 5,000 Horse, and having now a formidable Force ready for the King's Service, the Expense of which he could not defray for Want of a Jagheer, hopes the Nabob's Pleasure may be signified, whether on Condition of giving a Mutchulca for the procuring the King's *Sunnud*, and adjusting the Doul or Terms until these should arrive, he should receive the Sum of 222,958. 10, the Rents of that Jagheer of the Nazim.

The Mutchulca of the *Vaqueal* of *Sabut Jung* expresses fully the Terms on which this Assignment on the *Athats of Calcutta*, &c. was, as it is said, to be received as a *Wadah* referring to the Rents of the Jagheer of the Nazim, and as an *Elmaum* referring to the *Calfo Lands*, on Condition of answering for all that should be collected therefrom, unless he obtained the King's *Sunnud*, and delivered it into the *Dewanee Duffore*, within Six Months, and adjusted the Doul of the Jagheer. Now, though there appears a Translation of the Nabob's *Purwannah* to the President and Council, for paying the Rents of the Jagheer to Lord *Clive*, 1758, yet I cannot say that I have any where met with the Translates of any of the above Papers, except the *Sunnud*.

need Dewannee, though they seem of a Nature to set his Lordship's Claim to that Jagheer in a very different Light to what it must have appeared when the Mutchula or Obligation and Furd Sual were not considered, and when the King's Sunneed and Dual, or Terms of the Jagheer, are therein exprest as being absolutely requisite to be procured to make it valid, and which I never have yet heard were obtained.

Though I had the Satisfaction to find my Conduct in the Trusts committed to my Charge approved of, in repeated Letters from the Board here, and my Services recommended Home in Terms very favourable to our honourable Masters, who have likewise exprest their Pleasure for my Attention to their Interests; yet, from every Circumstance and Proceeding, there seems a Predetermination in the Committee to injure my Character and ruin my Fortune. I cannot, considering the Rank of Credit I have hitherto supported as a Member of the Council, resolve to submit to further Indignities, or to act in a Station now become of so little Consequence in the Eyes and Opinion of every Body. The Committee, instead of aiming to extenuate the supposed Offence, that is done in Courts of Justice where the greatest Criminals are arraigned, have evidently strove to aggravate every Circumstance that they would endeavour to charge upon me, even in regard to the Bills, which I asserted, and do maintain, were ordered to be given back to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, after we had signed the Covenants unconditionally, though, had we chose, we might have received their Amounts long before. The obvious Question was never put to *Mootyram*, Whether he had ever informed me, that *Mahomed Reza Cawn* had refused to receive them? and whether, on the contrary, he had not informed me repeatedly that they were given back?

The very Night before *Mootyram's* Arrest, and his being confined, he brought me a Message from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, desiring I would lend him 50,000 Rupees to pay in on Account his *Dacca* Rents for Lord *Clive's* Jagheer Money; and the Answer I returned was, Why did he not use the Money of the Bills that were given back? Though the Examination of those they would make Witnesses was in a Language in which none of the Gentlemen of the Committee are at all perfect, and that it must have been of the greatest Consequence to be certain that all the Questions and Answers were strictly and fully rendered, and that whatever was offered or said by the Prisoners, in the Terror and Confusion they were in, should be taken down in their own Words, especially as Expressions in this Language so often admit of Interpretations that may be rendered for or against; yet *Mootyram* and *Busfontrey*, were confronted with *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, *Juggutset*, &c. and I not present, nor at the Meetings where *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggutset* were first called upon to compose their Narrative. I must observe too with how little Candour the Select Committee have related their Proceedings. In that of the 7th they mention, that *Busfontrey* was ordered to be seized and brought before them; and in their Proceedings of the 8th, in regard to *Mootyram*, who was expected to be so principal an Evidence, they say he is only ordered to be sent for; no Notice is taken that he had been seized the Day before by a Serjeant's Party of *Seapoys*, and was kept Prisoner, with Three Centries over him, without Liberty of seeing any but his menial Servants, as if they purposely evaded the Avowal of such unwarrantable Acts. He still continues to this Day in the same clofe Confinement, as also *Busfontrey*, under military Guards; and under these Circumstances, Lord *Clive* proposed in Council he might be called and examined; as if such Treatment was not sufficient to deter any black Man from retracting, however much inclined, whatever he might have said before, false or contradictory, where he could not but expect that retracting would draw on him still more Digraze and unhappy Consequences. The Sufferings

of *Mootyram* point out too plainly what others have to expect from such arbitrary Power, and seem well calculated to excite every Accusation that can possibly be scraped together from such selfish disappointed Men, against the Gentlemen who have had the Administration, and managed the Affairs of the Company with so much Credit and Success.

I cannot avoid taking Notice of another Instance, to shew how much it has been the Aim of the President to render me cheap and of no Consequence in the Eyes of the very Country People. When I prebided as Chief, even the Interest of the Company required that Respect should be kept up. The Board having long since established a Chief and Council for the Management of the Collections, and conducting the Business of the *Burdwan* District, and all Orders have hitherto been issued to them from the public Department, and all Accounts, Statements, Remittances, &c. made by them to the Board, and never any Orders have been, since the Establishment of the Chief and Council, sent from the President of the Board to the Rajah, but whatever concerned the Business has been constantly addressed from the Board to them only. This Branch of the Company's Business, which has as little Connection with the Business of the Committee as Investments at the Subordinates, or the Lands of *Calcutta*, *Chittagong*, or *Midnapore*, they have taken under their Jurisdiction, and without once deigning to make the least Enquiry of me in any one Point, though here present, or even consulting the Board, or examining a Paper or public Account. A Letter is wrote from the President to the Rajah, demanding 7,90,000, as the Balance due from him, requiring it to be paid in Seven Days, otherwise should stand to the Consequences, for he would hear no Excuse. The Balance, according to a Statement which I gave Mr. *Sumner*, to the End of *March* last, supposing the Revenue 1763 to be stated at 34 Laaks, to which the Rajah never agreed, and this Year at 32 Laaks, it appears, that, from the Beginning of our Possessions to the End of *March*, there is due only about 3 Laaks in the Receipts of so large a Sum as 142,85,284 Rupees. The Accounts of the several Years will shew clear enough under whole Management the Business has been best kept up, and most Rents collected. The Rajah has not the Power remaining with him of recovering the Balances due from the Farmers, but through the Gentlemen superintending the Collections, and I believe the Balances outstanding may amount to 14 or 16 Laaks, the Cash Account will shew the Receipts and Disbursements of whatever Money has been collected. Notwithstanding these Circumstances, and that the Rajah receives at the Rate of about 22,000 Rupees per Month from the Cash, he has not sent the Balance due out of his own private Allowance, but represented these Circumstances. My Lord *Clive*, without consulting the Board, or saying a Word to the Chief, ordered him down at the very Time he ought to have been there present to make the Punia, which is not made yet. By the same Rule, he may extend his Authority, and send for every Zemindar at *Midnapore* or *Chittagong*, and to all that are the Company's Debtors at every subordinate Factory. Since the Rajah arrived in *Calcutta*, which is about Fifteen Days, he has not even dared to visit me, apprehending that Guards might be put upon him, after the Example of *Mootyram*. With what Credit could I now pretend to return to that Factory again, where I must be considered of so little Consequence, that even those placed under me dare not come near me for Fear of his Lordship's Displeasure?

I observe, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has thought proper to include Mr. *Cartier*, amongst those he has named partaking in the Presents from the Nabob. It is true, I did mention to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* my Wishes that the Nabob might shew the Marks of his Favour to Mr. *Cartier*, a Gentleman every Way so worthy of it, and meriting so well of his Family; but this, in Justice to that

Gentleman,

Gen<sup>l</sup> nan, I must declare, was without his Knowledge. *Mahomed Reza Cawn* said he would take some Opportunity of hinting it to the Nabob, but he never informed me what he had done in the Affair.

I shall at all Times be ready to give every Satisfaction, in every Part of my Transactions, whether pecuniary or otherwise, to every candid Enquirer, as, it is well known, I have done on former Occasions. But as, from the Tenor of the Proceedings of the Select Committee, I cannot but consider them as my avowed Enemies, I am resolved no longer to continue in the Service, while they have the Lead, and usurp the whole Power into their own Hands, and do accordingly now resign the Company's Employ; expressing my warmest Wishes for the constant Success of their Affairs, and with most grateful Thanks for their Favour, during the Fifteen Years I have devoted myself to their Service, not doubting that I shall be able to satisfy them and the unprejudiced, as to the Propriety and Rectitude of my Actions, and of my steady and inviolate Regard for their Interest on every Occasion.

17th June 1765.

*John Johnston.*

This Minute having been perused, the Members of the Committee desire the Board will meet To-morrow, that *Mootyram* may be examined in Council on the Evidences he gave before them.

Ordered, That the Secretary do acquaint Mr. *Johnstone*, that he is permitted to resign the Service.

Fort William, the 18th June 1765.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable *Robert Lord Clive*, President,  
*William Brightheil Sumner*,  
*Charles Stafford Playdell*,  
*Harry Verelst*,  
*Francis Sykes*,  
*Ralph Lyecester*,  
*John Burdett*,  
*George Gray*, Esquires.

The Board being met agreeable to the Desire of the Select Committee, then minuted, that *Mootyram* might be examined in their Presence, on the Evidence he gave to the Committee, touching the pecuniary Distributions lately made at the City, he was accordingly called before them, and his Examination taken through the Interpreter in the different Courts, who was particularly sworn on this Occasion, as was *Mootyram* also again.

On reading to him separately the several Parts of his Evidence to the Committee, he literally confirmed the Whole of it, except in the following Particulars.

To the first Question, he now said, that he did go to

*Juggutseet*, by *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* Orders, with *Ishmael Aly Cawn*, but not to ask for Money.

To the Question, What did you say to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, about stopping the Business of the *Seets*, unless they complied with the Demand? he answered to the same Purport as to the Committee, but made use only of the Term *Cootch Boolega Ny*, for what is rendered by the Committee, Meeting with no Protection or Countenance; whereupon the Committee observed, that he indifferently and repeatedly made use of both the Expressions, *Cootch Syeur riga Ny*, and *Boolega Ny*.

In his Answer to the subsequent Question, he now differed, saying, that *Juggutseet* made no Offer of Rings or Jewels, but told them only, that as far as Twenty or Five and Twenty Thousand Rupees he would comply; that *Ishmael Aly Cawn* then said, that would not do; and *Juggutseet* replied, that he would then speak to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* himself; and that when he went to him, he proposed the Sum of 50,000 Rupees.

To the Question, Was it of your own Accord, or was you ordered to tell *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, that if the *Seets* complied with the Demand, their Business should be protected, otherwise it would have no Countenance or Encouragement? he confirmed his Answer to the Committee, using only the same Expression already remarked.

The Examination having been concluded,

Mr. *Lyecester* desired the following Question might be put to *Mootyram*:

If when Mr. *Johnston* related to him the Reasons why he thought the *Seets* might make Presents, whether he ordered him to mention them to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and to desire *Mahomed Reza Cawn* would urge them to the *Seets*? which being put to him accordingly, he replied, That Mr. *Johnston* did tell him to express himself to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* in the same Terms which Mr. *Johnston* did to him.

Mr. *Lyecester*, in Addition to the several Minutes already entered in Vindication of his Conduct, on the Subject of this Enquiry, and agreeably to the Intimation in the Close of the last, desired further to take the following Oath, which was accordingly administered to him by the President; viz.

I swear that I am totally ignorant of the Messages said to be delivered by *Mootyram* to the *Seets*. So help me God.

(Signed)

*Ralph Lyecester.*

*Clive*,  
*Wm B. Sumner*,  
*H. Verelst*,  
*Fran Sykes*,  
*Ralph Lyecester*,  
*J. Burdett*,  
*George Gray*.

## No 86.

To the honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. THE accompanying Proceedings of the Select Committee will explain our Motives for purchasing the *Admiral Stevens* to convey to your Hands these Dispatches, which, we hope, will be deemed of sufficient Importance to merit any extraordinary Expence thereby incurred; an Expence which, we flatter ourselves, will be fully defrayed by the valuable Cargo she carries Home at this early Season.

2. By the General Letter of this Date you will be informed by the President and Council of every material Concern that has been transacted before the Board. At the same Time, we beg Leave to refer to the Letters  
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dispatched by the *Vansittart* and *Butt*, whereof Duplicates are now inclosed, for a Detail of the military Operations, political Occurrences, and especially the very important Transactions previous to our Arrival, and subsequent to the Death of *Meer Jaffer*; an Event that furnished the most glorious Opportunity of establishing your Influence and Power, on so solid a Basis as must soon have rendered the *English East India Company* the most potent commercial Body that ever flourished at any Period of Time.

3. It is from a due Sense of the Regard we owe and profess to your Interest, and to our own Honour, that we think it indispensably necessary to lay open to your

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View

View a Series of Transactions too notoriously known to be suppressed, and too affecting to your Interest, to the national Character, and to the Existence of the Company in Bengal, to escape unnoticed and uncensured; Transactions which seem to demonstrate that every Spring of this Government was smeared with Corruption, that Principles of Rapacity and Oppression universally prevailed, and that every Spark of Sentiment and public Spirit was lost and extinguished in the unbounded Lust of unmerited Wealth.

4. To illustrate these Positions, we must exhibit to your View a most unpleasing Variety of Complaints, Enquiries, Evidences, Accusations, and Vindications, the Particulars of which are entered in our Proceedings and the Appendix, assuring you that we undertake this Task with peculiar Reluctance, from the personal Regard we entertain for some of the Gentlemen whose Characters will appear to be deeply affected.

5. At Fort St. George, we received the first Advices of the Demise of *Mier Jaffier*, and of *Shujah Dowla's* Defeat. It was there humbly imagined that no definitive Measures would be taken, either in respect to a Peace, or filling the Vacancy in the Nizamut, before our Arrival, as the *Lapwing* arrived in the Month of *January* with your General Letter, and the Appointment of a Committee, with express Powers to that Purpose, for the successful Execution of which the happiest Occasion now offered. However, a contrary Resolution prevailed in the Council. The Opportunity of acquiring immense Fortunes was too inviting to be neglected, and the Temptation too powerful to be resisted. A Treaty was hastily drawn up by the Board, or rather transcribed, with few unimportant Additions, from that concluded with *Mier Jaffier*, and a Deputation, consisting of Messieurs *Johnston*, *Senior*, *Middleton*, and *Lycester*, appointed to raise the natural Son of the deceased Nabob to the Subahdary, in Prejudice of the Claim of the Grandson; and for this Measure such Reasons are assigned as ought to have dictated a diametrically opposite Resolution. *Miran's* Son was a Minor, which Circumstance alone would have naturally brought the whole Administration into our Hands, at a Juncture when it became indispensably necessary we should realize that Shadow of Power and Influence, which, having no solid Foundation, was exposed to the Danger of being annihilated by the first Stroke of adverse Fortune; but this Inconsequence was not regarded; nor was it material to the Views for perpetuating the Treaty, which was predicated on the young Nabob, at the first Interview, in to earnest and indelicate a Manner as highly disgusted him, and chagrined his Ministers; while not a single Rupee was stipulated for the Company, whose Interests were sacrificed, that their Servants might revel in the Spoils of a Treasury, before impoverished, but now totally exhausted.

6. This Scene of Corruption was first disclosed at a Visit the Nabob paid to Lord *Clive* and the Gentlemen of the Committee, a few Days after our Arrival. He there delivered to his Lordship a Letter filled with bitter Complaints of the Insults and Indignities he had been exposed to, and the Embezzlement of near 20 Lacks of Rupees issued from his Treasury, for Purposes unknown, during the late Negotiations. So public a Complaint could not be disregarded, and it soon produced an Enquiry. We referred the Letter to the Board, in Expectation of obtaining a satisfactory Account of the Application of this Money, and were answered only by a worn Remonstrance, entered by Mr. *Lycester*, against that very Nabob, in whose Elevation he boasts of having been a principal Agent.

7. *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the Naib Subah, was then called upon to account for this large Disbursement from the Treasury; and he soon delivered to the Committee the very extraordinary Narrative entered in our Proceedings the 6th of *June*, where he specifies the several Names, the Sums, by whom paid, and to whom, whether in Bills, Cash, or Obligations. So precise, so accurate an Account as this, of Money issued for secret and

venal Services, was never, we believe, before this exposed, exhibited to the honourable Court of Directors; at least never vouched by such undeniable Testimony and authentic Documents; by *Juggut Seet*, who himself was obliged to contribute largely to the Sums demanded; by *Mooleram*, who was employed by Mr. *Johnstone* in all those pecuniary Transactions; by the Nabob and *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, who were the heaviest Sufferers; and lastly, by the Confession of the Gentlemen themselves, whose Names are specified in the Distribution List.

8. *Juggut Seet* expressly declares in his Narrative, that the Sum which he agreed to pay the Deputation, amounting to 125,000 Rupees, was extorted by Menaces; and since the Close of our Enquiry, and the Opinions we delivered in the Proceedings of the 21st of *June*, it fully appears that the Presents from the Nabob and *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, exceeding the immense Sum of 17 Lacks, were not the voluntary Offerings of Gratitude, but Contributions levied in the Weakness of the Government, and violently exacted from the dependant State and timid Disposition of the Minister. The Charge is indeed denied on the one Hand, as well as affirmed on the other; your honourable Board must therefore determine how far the Circumstance of Extortion may aggravate the Crime of Disobedience to your positive Orders; the exposing the Government in a Manner to Sale, and receiving the infamous Wages of Corruption from opposite Parties and contending Interests. We speak with Boldness, because we speak from Conviction founded upon indubitable Facts, that besides the above Sums specified in the Distribution Account, to the Amount of 228,125 Pounds Sterling, there was likewise to the Value of several Lacks of Rupees procured from *Nundomar* and *Roydullub*, each of whom aspired at and obtained a Promise of that very Employment it was predetermined to bestow on *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. The Particulars of this extraordinary Bargain came too late to our Hands to be inserted in the Proceedings; nor do we think it material, since to insist on farther Proofs than are already fully and clearly exhibited, in order to convince you that our Enquiry was necessary, and our Decision moderate, would, we apprehend, serve rather to exhaust your Patience, than confirm your Belief.

9. These Particulars being submitted to your Consideration, it may be necessary to offer a few Remarks on those Arguments urged by the Gentlemen in their several Minutes, either in their own Justification, or with a View that our Proceedings should appear arbitrary and oppressive. Messieurs *Johnstone*, *Senior*, *Lycester*, *Burdett*, and *Gray*, vindicate the receiving Presents by Arguments, which in our Opinion renders their Conduct still more culpable. They urge, that as the Covenants were not then executed they could not be obligatory. In answer, we will beg Leave to ask those Gentlemen, Whether the Company's Orders were not then received? Whether the Intention and Spirit of those Orders were not clearly and perfectly understood? Whether the Covenants themselves were not transmitted from *England* ready to be filled up and executed? Whether a single Motion for fulfilling the Company's Instructions appears on the Face of the Consultations? Whether it was not incumbent on them, as the Superior Power, to set this Example of Respect and Deference to the Orders of their Constituents? And whether they conceive the Company would have sustained any Detriment by this Act of their Obedience? How then came the Orders to be totally neglected, at a Juncture, especially, when the Letter and Spirit of those Obligations clearly manifested that particular Regard should be had to their Execution?

10. The same Gentlemen arraign the Conduct, and even deny the Powers, of the Select Committee; Mr. *Lycester* in particular affirms, that Candour and Decency required, the Truth of a Charge brought against any of the Members of the Board should be determined by the Board. You, Gentlemen, will be able to judge of the Force of this Argument, and of the Propriety of the Measure proposed, when we acquaint you, that of a Board



Board then sitting at the Presidency, consisting of the President and Eight Members, Five of those Members were themselves the accused, who, by having a Majority of Voices, would of Consequence become the Judges of their own Conduct. We will not enter into a Discussion of the precise Powers intrusted to the Committee: but we may venture to affirm, that unless the Spirit of their Instructions be executed to the Correction of Abuses, the Detection of Corruptions, and the Punishment of Disobedience, the Ends proposed, of "restoring Peace and Tranquillity," will be frustrated, and their Appointment rendered ridiculous and absurd.

11. Mr. *Johnstone* is pleased to assert, that no Proofs can be produced of Menaces being sent to obtain a Sum of Money from *Juggut Seet*. To this we reply by a Reference to the Evidence of his own Agent *Mootyram*, where it is declared upon Oath, that he delivered, by Mr. *Johnstone's* express Orders, the very Messages recited in his Examination; Messages of such Tendency, as certainly would bear hard on Mr. *Johnstone's* Character. As to what he further adds, of our obtaining this Evidence by military Force and Terrors, we are sorry to see a Gentleman reduced to the Necessity of relying his Defence on the Subterfuge of a pitiful Evasion. Mr. *Johnstone* certainly knows, at least he ought to know, as the Proceedings were immediately sent to him, that *Mootyram* was seized in the Commission of a clandestine illegal Act, of interesting Consequence to the Public in general, and to Mr. *Johnstone* and the Gentlemen of the Deputation in particular; *Mootyram* was actually detected in an Attempt to suppress Bills to the Amount of 175,000 Rupees, which had been wrongfully obtained from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; and to screen from Discovery a Circumstance which it highly imported the Committee to know, and which Mr. *Johnstone* should have made known, were he solicitous to exculpate himself from a Charge that deeply affected his Reputation, and of such irreproachable Conduct as he would endeavour to persuade the World. But that not the least Shadow of a Doubt might remain of the Candour and Equity of the Measures we pursued, we readily consented that the same *Mootyram* might be re-examined in the Presence of the Council, where he confirmed, without Contradiction or Evasion, every material Circumstance set forth in his first Evidence. The Remainder of Mr. *Johnstone's* Minute, you will perceive, doth not affect the Committee as a Body; it consists entirely of personal Invective, loose and violent Declamation, the genuine Effect of enraged Disappointment and Detection; yet should any Thing further be required in Answer, we beg Leave to refer you to the Replies made by Lord *Clive* and the Members of the Committee, which we flatter ourselves will appear full and explicit.

12. One Circumstance more occurs, in the Course of those Gentlemen's Minutes, that merits our Observation: It is declared by Mr. *Lycester* upon Oath, that he did not receive the Present intended him by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and that his Letters will demonstrate his Intention was to have refused it. This is a Fact, of the Truth of which we entertain not the least Doubt; but it proves nothing more, than that Mr. *Lycester* would not receive a Sum of Money after the Covenants had been enforced by the Committee, and an Enquiry set on foot concerning the Distribution of that very Money, a Part of which was now privately tendered back to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*. He will not deny that he knew of the intended Present when he was at *Cosimbuzar*; the Letters of Messrs. *Seasier* and *Middleton* prove that he did. He will not deny, that Bills, to the Amount of 50,000 Rupees, were made out in his Name; their being now offered back to *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, and *Mootyram's* being detected in the Fact, evince it. The Whole, therefore, of this solemn Affirmation, amounts only to an Evasion in respect to Time and Circumstances, which no Way affect the Nature of the Act itself.

13. Having now explained the Origin and Progress

of this disagreeable Enquiry, we beg Leave to touch upon a few Circumstances in Justification of the Lenity of our Opinions delivered, and Resolutions entered, in the Committee Proceedings of the 21st of June. And here we must observe, that, notwithstanding we believed a Reformation of Abuses to be actually our Duty, yet we could not think the same Duty necessarily extended to the Punishment of Transgressions; we owed a Regard to the Serious and Characters of some of the Gentlemen concerned, who must suffer extremely by a Suspension or Dismission; the great Objects of our Wishes were, that your Service might in future be conducted with Integrity, Diligence, and Economy, without a Retrospect to the past, where it could be avoided. The Subject indeed of the present Enquiry was so recent, it was of so interesting a Nature to the Public, and recommended to us, or rather was forced upon us, with such peculiar Circumstances, as rendered our proceeding to a Scrutiny necessary to our own Reputation; but the Severity of Judgment, and a Decision which would have left so great a Void in your Council, was not equally necessary, either to your Interest or to our Honour. Such an Event might have impressed the Minds of the Natives with strange Ideas of the fluctuating Situation of our Councils; and it would unavoidably have admitted a Number of your junior Servants to the supreme Direction of this vast Machine of Government, at an Age little exceeding that Period fixed by the Laws of their Country, for intrusting them with the Management of their own private Fortunes. We must further observe, that many of the most aggravating Circumstances had not then reached our Knowledge; at the same Time, we were under the Necessity of coming to some Determination: *Shuja Dowlat* impatiently expected Lord *Clive* in Camp, to conclude the proposed Treaty; and the Regulations of the Government lately established, and other Matters then transacting, absolutely required Mr. *Sykes's* Attendance at the Durbar: Some of the extraordinary Facts above related were obtained since their Departure; and had they come sooner, they would have served only to perplex and embarrass us the more. In a Word, to obviate future Evils, we considered as our immediate Duty: The Punishment of past Misconduct we chose rather to refer to your honourable Board, that Malice itself should have no Foundation for asserting, that we had assumed and exerted a Power not fully and expressly authorized by the Court of Directors. We think it necessary to declare, in Justice to Mr. *Cartier*, whose Character stands irreproachable in the List of your Servants, that he never knew of, or consented to, the receiving any the smallest Present, either from the Nabob or from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

14. Although we will not take upon us to declare, that we entirely approve of the Covenants in the Form in which they have been transmitted; yet we are persuaded, from the Instances just related, that some Restraint is necessary, to prevent the Abuse of the customary Indulgence to receive Presents. This Indulgence has certainly been extended to the most shameful Oppression and flagrant Corruption, and is otherwise attended with manifold Inconveniences to the Service. We therefore determined immediately to enforce your Instructions relative to those Obligations, and to bind down by Laws, all such as are not to be checked by a Sense of Honour and Justice. You will accordingly observe, that carrying those Orders into a strict Execution, throughout every Department, Civil and Military, was amongst the earliest Transactions of your Select Committee.

15. We also took an early Opportunity of considering the Tendency of your repeated Instructions for recalling Free Merchants, and other Europeans, who, without the least Claim to your Protection from Indemnities, were nevertheless permitted to reside up the Country, and in all the different Parts of the Nabob's Dominions. Sorry we are to observe, that this Indulgence has frequently given Birth to grievous Acts of Insult and Oppression,

position, at Places remote from the Presidency and Subordinate Offices; and that carrying your Orders into Execution became daily more necessary. By this Measure, however, the Bullies of your Servants will suffer considerably, from their being now obliged to employ black Gomattahs on many Affairs that demand the Vigour and Activity of Europeans. Hence, likewise, will many Persons of real Merit be deprived the Means of Subsistence; yet, in Consideration that private Interest must give Way to public Benefit, and that it is our Duty to obey where your immediate Interests do not absolutely require a Deviation from your Orders, we determined to call all the Europeans residing up the Country, under Protection of the English Name, by the title of *Officer* next, and have, for that Purpose, circulated Advertisements and Orders to the different Subordinates.

16. Regulating the Country Government was the next Object of our Attention. We found the Nabob highly dissatisfied with the plenary Powers vested in *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; who, by virtue of the Treaty, acted in Quality of Prime Minister, and enjoyed uncontrolled Authority. This unlimited Sway, lodged in the Hands of a single Person, appeared dangerous to the present Establishment, which we thought it becoming the Company's Honour to maintain, as having been solemnly ratified by the Governor and Council. To amend the very obvious Defects in the Treaty, without oversteering the Principles on which it was founded, was consistent with Equity, while it met with the Nabob's own Approbation; and the most effectual Means of doing this, seemed to us to consist in an equal Partition of ministerial Influence. As *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* short Administration was irreproachable, we determined to continue him in a Share of the Authority; at the same Time that we associated with him Men of Weight and Character, so that each became a Check on the Conduct of the others. Accordingly, we fixed on *Juggut Sert* and *Roydullah*, for the Relations assigned in the Proceedings; and we now have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that the Business of the Government goes on with Unanimity, Vigour, and Dispatch.

17. By the last Dispatches, you were advised, that *Shuja Dowlab* was making fresh and formidable Preparations to penetrate a Second Time into the Nabob's Dominions. He had found Means to engage *Mulbar*, a considerable *Marattah* Chief, in his Alliance; and if the judicious and vigorous Measures pursued by General *Carnac* had not prevented a Junction of the numerous Forces destined for this Invasion, a ruinous War must have been supported through the Course of another Campaign. The Enemy's Situation rendered their Design for some Time uncertain, and obliged the General to great Circumspection in his Movements, lest he should leave the Frontiers exposed. Having, however, at length, received undoubted Advice they had taken the *Korab* Road, he suspected their Intention was to fall upon *Sir Robert Fletcher*, who commanded a separate Corps in that District. Accordingly, he made some forced Marches to effect a Junction, which he happily accomplished, and the United Army moved in Pursuit of the Enemy. On the 3d of May, the General came up with, attacked, and entirely defeated them; in consequence of which, *Shuja Dowlab* separated from his Allies, while the *Marattahs* retired with Precipitation towards the *Jumma*. In Fact, this Blow appears to have been decisive; for *Shuja Dowlab* never again attempted to join the *Marattahs*, who, observing the General drop the Pursuit, in order to watch the Vizier, made a second Effort to re-enter *Korab*, in which they were disappointed. Peruaded that, to stop their Incursions, it would be necessary to drive them beyond the *Jumma*, the General crossed the River the 22d, dislodged them from their Post on the opposite Side, and obliged them to retire to the Hills. Here he quitted his Pursuit, and returned to his Station at *Fajeman*, to receive *Shuja Dowlab*, who had intimated a Desire of

submitting to whatever Condition we should think fit to prescribe. His Letter to the General expresses his Feelings; and the Reception he met with in our Camp, was such as Policy dictated should be given to a vanquished Enemy of *Shuja Dowlab's* Rank and Character.

18. A Peace with the Vizier became the next immediate Object of our Deliberations; in adjusting which, we endeavoured to extend our Views beyond the present Advantages that might possibly be obtained. We regarded *Shuja Dowlab's* personal Character, and high Reputation over the whole Empire, the Situation of his Country which we had conquered, and the great Risk and Expence of maintaining this Conquest, if we closed with the Plan adopted by the late Governor and Council, of giving it up to *Nudjuff Cawn*, who had neither Weight of Reputation nor of Force sufficient to keep Possession, nor to form a secure Barrier to the Nabob's Dominions. The Words of our Instructions to *Lord Clive*, when he left the Presidency to adjust the Conditions of a Peace, express the Sentiments which we still entertain on this Subject: "Experience having shewn, that an Influence maintained by Force of Arms, is destructive of that Commercial Spirit which we ought to promote, ruinous to the Company, and oppressive to the Country; we earnestly recommend to your Lordship, that you will exert your utmost Endeavours to conciliate the Affections of the Country Powers, to remove any Jealousy they may entertain of our unbounded Ambition, and to convince them we aim not at Conquest and Dominion, but Security, in carrying on a free Trade, equally beneficial to them and to us."

"With this View, Policy requires, that our Demands be moderate and equitable, and that we avoid every Appearance of an Inclination to enlarge our Territorial Possessions. The Sacrifice of Conquests which we must hold on a very precarious Tenure, and at an Expence more than equivalent to their Revenues, is of little Consequence to us; yet will such Retitution impress them with a high Opinion of our Generosity and Justice."

"For these Reasons, we think *Shuja Dowlab* should be reinstated in the full Possession of all his Dominions, with such Limitations only, as he must see are evidently calculated for our mutual Benefit. We would decline insisting upon any Terms that must prove irksome to his high Spirit, and imply a Suspension of his Sincerity; retaining Possession of any of his strong Holds may possibly be deemed a necessary Pledge of his Fidelity: For our Parts, we would rather consider it as the Source of future Contentment, and an unnecessary Burthen to the Company, unless it be one Day proposed to resume the Thoughts of extending their Dominions: A Measure very opposite to the Sentiments in which we left the Court of Directors."

19. Agreeable to these Instructions, his Lordship and General *Carnac* concluded a Treaty of Peace with *Shuja Dowlab*, that will, if any Thing can, secure his Friendship and Fidelity, and render the public Tranquillity permanent. They found him extremely averse to the Establishment of Factories in his Dominions, which he considered as laying the Foundation of a future Rupture, and the only Thing that could possibly disturb our Amity; he very justly observed, that our Encroachments in *Bengal*, the great Abuse of the Company's Servants, and extraordinary Extension of the Privileges originally granted to the *English*, had been productive of much Confusion and Bloodshed in *Bengal*, and he feared might produce similar Consequences in his Country. Accordingly, *Lord Clive* and General *Carnac* judged it advisable to omit the Word "Factories" in the Treaty; but without relinquishing the Right, should it be found expedient, after mature Deliberation, to enforce it. To speak our own Sentiments freely, we can foresee no Benefit that can arise to the Company from maintaining Settlements at so vast a Distance from the Presidency,

Presidency, whatever Advantages may arise to their Servants. At least the Prospect is so remote, while the Expenses are so certain, the Risk so evident, and the Disputes it will occasion so probable, that we are at present of Opinion, the Factory lately established at *Bansras* ought immediately to be withdrawn; we mean as soon as the Agreement between the Company and *Bukantjung* is expired. The Limits of the Nabob's Dominions are sufficient to answer all our Purposes. These, we think, ought to constitute the Boundaries, not only of all your Territorial Possessions and Influence in these Parts, but of your Commerce also; since, by grasping at more, you endanger the Safety of those immense Revenues, and that well-founded Power, which you now enjoy, without the Hope of obtaining an adequate Advantage.

20. With respect to the other Articles of the Treaty, you will observe, that a sufficient Provision is secured for the Support of the King's Honour and Dignity, without Danger of his becoming a future Incumbrance; and that 26 Lacks yearly are granted to him on the Revenues of *Bengal*; a Revenue far more considerable than he ever before enjoyed.—In Gratitude for this Instance of our Attention to his Interest, his Majesty has been pleased to bestow on the Company the most important Grants ever yet obtained by any European State from the Mogul Court. Besides confirming to the Company all their former Possessions, and securing to them the Reversion in Perpetuity of *Lord Clive's* Jagheer, he has conferred on them the Dewanny of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, and ratified in the strongest Terms the Agreement we proposed concluding with the Nabob, if the King's Consent could be procured.—Subjects, which it will be necessary to explain in a separate Paragraph:—Another Article stipulates, that *Shuja Dowlah* shall pay the Company Fifty Lacks of Rupees by way of Indemnification for the Charges incurred by the War. This Indemnification, we know, is inadequate; but his Circumstances would not afford more without oppressing the Country, and thereby laying the Foundation of future Contention and Trouble; and accordingly, you will perceive, that no Money is granted for any other Consideration whatever:—As to surrendering *Cashm Ally*, *Sombre*, and the Deserters, Compliance with such a Demand is now utterly out of his Power. The former, we hear, has sought Shelter in the *Kabul* Country, and the latter resides under the Protection of the *Rajats*, screened both from *Shuja Dowlah* and from us; so that making this an essential Preliminary would be highly unreasonable and absurd. However, it is stipulated, that they never meet with Encouragement or Assistance from *Shuja Dowlah*, or be ever again admitted into his Country. Upon the Whole; we have paid such Regard to *Shuja Dowlah's* Character, and Interest, and to what Justice as well as Policy requires, without any the smallest Sacrifice of your Honour or Interest, that we entertain the most flattering Hope, this Treaty of Peace will be lasting, and our Frontiers on that Quarter perfectly secure against future Invasions.

21. The Time now approaches when we may be able to determine with some Degree of Certainty, whether our remaining as Merchants, subjected to the Jurisdiction, Encroachments, and Insults, of the Country Government, or the supporting your Privileges and Possessions by the Sword, are likely to prove most beneficial to the Company. Whatever may be the Consequence, certain it is, that after having once begun, and proceeded to such Lengths, we have been forced to go on from Step to Step, until your whole Possessions were put to the Risk by every Revolution effected, and every Battle fought. To apply a Remedy to these Evils, by giving Stability and Permanency to your Government, is now, and has been, the constant Object of the serious Attention of your Select Committee.

22. The perpetual Struggles for Superiority between the Nabobs and your Agents, together with the recent

Proofs before us of notorious and avowed Corruption, have rendered us unanimously of Opinion, after the most mature Deliberation, that no other Method could be suggested of laying the Ax to the Root of all these Evils, than that of obtaining the Dewanny of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, for the Company: By establishing the Power of the Great Mogul, we have likewise established his Rights; and his Majesty, from Principles of Gratitude, Equity, and Policy, has thought proper to bestow this important Employment on the Company; the Nature of which is, the collecting all the Revenues, and after defraying the Expenses of the Army, and allowing a sufficient Fund for the Support of the Nizamut, to remit the Remainder to *Delhi*, or wherever the King shall reside or direct. But as the King has been graciously pleased to bestow on the Company, for ever, such Surplus as shall arise from the Revenues, upon certain Stipulations and Agreements expressed in the *Sunnud*, we have settled with the Nabob, with his own free Will and Consent, that the Sum of 53 Lacks shall be annually paid to him for the Support of his Dignity and contingent Expenses, exclusive of the Charge of maintaining an Army, which is to be defrayed out of the Revenues ceded to the Company, by this royal Grant of the Dewanny. And indeed, the Nabob has abundant Reason to be well satisfied with the Conditions of his Agreement, whereby a Fund is secured to him without Trouble or Danger, adequate to all the Purposes of such Grandeur and Happiness, as a Man of his Sentiments has any Conception of enjoying:—More would serve only to disturb his Quiet, endanger his Government, and sap the Foundation of that solid Structure of Power and Wealth, which at length has happily reared and completed by the Company, after a vast Expende of Blood and Treasure.

23. By this Acquisition of the Dewanny, your Possessions and Influence are rendered permanent and secure; since no future Nabob will either have Power or Riches sufficient to attempt your Overthrow, by Means either of Force or Corruption. All Revolutions must henceforward be at an End, as there will be no Fund for secret Services, for Donations or for Restitutions. The Nabob cannot answer the Expectations of the venal and mercenary, nor will the Company comply with Demands injurious to themselves, out of their own Revenues.—The Experience of Years has convinced us, that a Division of Power is impossible, without generating Discontent, and hazarding the Whole.—All must belong either to the Company or to the Nabob, and we leave you to judge which Alternative is the most desirable, and the most expedient in the present Circumstances of Affairs. As to ourselves, we know of no System we could adopt, that could less affect the Nabob's Dignity, and at the same Time secure the Company against the fatal Effects of future Revolutions, than this of the Dewanny. The Power is now lodged where it can only be lodged with Safety to us; so that we may pronounce, with some Degree of Confidence, that the worst that will happen in future to the Company, will proceed from temporary Ravages only, which can never become so general as to prevent your Revenues from yielding a sufficient Fund to defray your Civil and Military Charges, and furnish your Investments.

24. But to secure those valuable Possessions, a constant Regard must be paid to your Military Establishments. By the regimental Returns which we inclose in the Packet, and which are very exact; you will see, at one View, the deplorable Condition of our Infantry; to complete which, agreeably to your Directions, and to the Proposals made by *Lord Clive*, not less than Nine hundred Men will suffice. We therefore most earnestly request, that you will, next Year, send out Twelve or Fourteen Hundred Men for this Establishment, giving such peremptory Orders as must be obeyed, that none of this Number be detained, upon any Con-

sideration, upon the Coast of *Coromandel*. Our Numbers once completed, we shall require, for the Security of your immense Possessions in this Country, not more than Six Hundred Recruits, to be sent out annually, in the following Manner; viz. Five Hundred Infantry, Sixty Artillery, Twenty Cavalry, and Twenty Sergeants for the *Seaports*. To this Number must be added, Thirty Volunteers and Officers; and it would be of the utmost Benefit to our Plan, that you send out every Year, Six or Seven Gentlemen from the Academy at *Woolwich*, for Artillery Officers; this being a Service that suffers extremely, for want of Persons properly instructed to conduct it; since no Officer, who knows the Benefit of the Infantry Service here, will chuse to quit it for any Advantage the Artillery will afford.

25. Already we feel the good Effects of regimenting your Troops; Discipline, Subordination, and Economy, begin to take Place. Had General *Carnac's* Merit been much greater, if possible, than it is, he could not effect this of himself, unassisted as he was by Field Officers, and thwarted, as he always has been, by the late Governors and Councils. We have already issued our Orders for striking off Half the Double Batta, and shall, in a very few Days, put your Forces entirely upon a Footing with the Troops on the Coast of *Choromandel*, which will be reducing your Military Expenses as low as they can well bear, consistently with your Interest and the Good of the Service.

26. Before we quit this Subject, we must request, in the strongest Manner, that you will supply us, for the first Year, with 10,000 Stands of Small Arms, and afterwards with 4000 annually, which will, in future, answer all our Demands, if proper Care be taken in the Purchase. Of late Years, the bad Quality of your Small Arms, in general, has exposed your Possessions to the greatest Risk and Danger. The Locks are ill finished, and the Metal so badly tempered as not to stand the Heat of the Sun, in this Climate. We are therefore persuaded it would prove, in the End, much to your Advantage, if you purchased all your Small Arms of the same Persons who furnish the Government, and pay at the Rate of 27 instead of 18 Shillings per Fire-lock; since Experience demonstrates they will continue serviceable for double the Time, without being liable to the Inconveniences above represented. The Iron Founder, whom you sent out on the *Kent*, died on his Passage to this Place; but as the casting of Shot and Shells in this Country is an Object of great Importance, we strongly recommend that you will supply the Loss as soon as possible, by sending Three or Four Persons well versed in that Business, that our whole Design may not be frustrated by such an Accident in future. It also merits your serious Consideration to provide, by every possible Means, against the illicit Importation of Small Arms to your Settlements in *India*, and particularly in *Bengal*. Of late Years this has become a profitable Branch of Trade with the *Europe* Captains, as well as that of furnishing the Natives with Ammunition; and they elude the Searches of your Officers, by sending round small Vessels to meet them at Sea in certain Latitudes, or to *Teneriff* and *Saint Jago*, or elsewhere, out of the Reach of your Enquiries. However, as their continuing such Practices any longer may prove fatal to their Consequences to all your Possessions in this Country, we earnestly exhort, that you will immediately apply the most effectual Remedy you can suggest, either by Way of Prevention, or by the vigorous and exemplary Punishment of the Offenders. At the same Time you may depend we will take every Step in our Power to detect the least Breach of your Orders on this Head, and obstruct the Sale of all Kinds of Fire Arms.

27. Having observed the Reluctance that appeared in bidding for your Farms, at the last Sale of your Lands in the *Burdwan* Province, the great annual Deficiency in the Collections, and the numberless Com-

plaints made of grievous Exactions and Oppression, we determined, upon Mr. *Johnstone's* resigning your Service, to appoint Mr. *Vereff*, in Quality of Supervisor of those Revenues, in order to form the best Judgment possible of the Cause of this yearly Deficiency of the real Value of the Lands, the best Method of improving and letting them; and also to procure the necessary Materials for a Plan to conduct the Collections, in future, in such Manner as shall appear most conducive to your Interest, and likely to promote the Happiness of the People. It is with Pleasure we acquaint you, that we have the greatest Reason to be satisfied with Mr. *Vereff's* Attention to the several Objects recommended, and the Diligence he has exerted during his short Residence in that Country; of which you may form some Judgment from his Memorial to the Committee, annexed to our Proceedings of the 14th of September.

28. It was in Consequence of this Memorial that we formed our Resolution of that Date, to withdraw the Factory, and also to recall the Member of the Board resident at *Madagascar*, the Collections and Business of which may as conveniently be transacted by a junior Servant, at a much less Expence. Many are the Inconveniences, besides the extraordinary Charges incurred, that result from such Appointments, which we consider as necessary only at those Subordinations where your principal Investments are made. We are convinced, by very late Experience, that the most flagrant Oppressions may be wantonly committed in those Employments, by Members of the Board, which would not be tolerated in junior Servants; and that the Dread and Awe annexed to their Station, as Counsellors, has too frequently screened them from Complaints, which would be lodged, without Fear or Scruple, against inferior Servants.

29. But there are other manifold Inconveniences, of still more pernicious Effect to the Service, that result from those Appointments: Hence it was found necessary to enlarge the Council from Twelve to Sixteen Members, that there might be a sufficient Number to conduct the Business of the Presidency, and also to manage your Affairs at the Out Settlements, either in Quality of Chiefs or Residents. What is the Consequence, but such perpetual Changes and Revolutions at the Board as render it impossible for any of the Members to acquire a competent Knowledge of your Interests, and of the particular Duty of their own Station? This Increase in the Number of the Board is also productive of a further Inconvenience, of the deepest Concern to your Interest, in the present Situation of your Affairs. To keep up to the Letter of your Instructions, we must fill the Vacancies in Council from the next in Succession, without Regard to the Qualifications they possess for the Discharge of so important a Trust; and thus commit into the Hands of rash, inexperienced, and ignorant, young Men, the Conduct of a System of Government which demands the Discretion, Judgment, and Steadiness of more advanced Years and longer Services. Circumstances are now widely different from what they were a few Years since, when you confined your whole Attention to Commerce, and were happy in being able to complete your Investments without Insult or Exaction from the Country Government. You are now become the Sovereigns of a rich and potent Kingdom; your Success is beheld with Jealousy by the other *European* Nations, who maintain Settlements in *India*, and your Interests are so extended, so complicated, and so connected with those of the several surrounding Powers, as to form a nice and difficult System of Politics.

30. These weighty Considerations determined us to avoid filling the Vacancies lately occasioned in Council by the Death of Mr. *Billers*, and Resignation of Messieurs *Johnstone* and *Burdett*. We carefully examined your Orders, respecting the Appointment of a Board. We compared the different Paragraphs of your Letter, the more clearly to ascertain the Spirit of your Instructions;

and are unanimous in our Opinion, your Reasons for encreasing the Number of the Board were founded on a Supposition that this Measure would conduce to the Benefit of the Company. Experience convinces us of the contrary; and we should be wanting in Duty to our Constituents, if, from a servile Regard to the Letter, we neglected the evident Sense and Meaning of your Instructions, by admitting to the Government of your Affairs, a Number of Persons who have certainly no other Claim to this Distinction than that of standing next in Succession. It is with the utmost Regret we think it incumbent on us to declare, that in the whole List of your junior Merchants there are not more than Three or Four Gentlemen whom we could possibly recommend to higher Stations at present. In this Number, Justice requires we should mention Mr. Campbell, Secretary to this Committee, whose Abilities and indefatigable Diligence, of which we had the most convincing Proofs in the Course of our Proceedings, entitle him to this Instance of our Regard, and to your particular Notice; and, as the same Qualifications will distinguish him in any Station of your Service, it is our joint Request that you will please to remove the Restriction on his Rising, as a Covenant Servant, and suffer him to take Rank according to the Date of his Appointment. At all Times it has been found expedient to deviate occasionally from this general Rule of preferring Seniority. It now becomes your indispensable Duty to admit no Claim but that of Merit, if you would preserve the valuable Possessions you enjoy, and realize the very near Prospect you have of establishing your Affairs on so firm and solid a Basis as nothing but Misconduct can overturn. So much rests with the Board, that in your judicious, impartial Selection of the Members, it depends, whether you hold a Foot of Land, and enjoy a Privilege, in Bengal, or whether you continue in Possession of the most ample Revenues, and extensive Influence, ever established by any European Mercantile Body. We therefore most earnestly exhort you, that no Consideration of Favour and Prejudice be suffered to bias you in the important Business of composing your Council, and that no other Distinction be admitted, except what is due to Ability, to Integrity, and to faithful essential Services. Were we to speak our Sentiments further, we would confess it to be our firm Opinion, founded on the Experience now before us, that the Business of this Government can never so effectually be conducted, as by a select, unanimous, Committee. By dividing the Power into many Hands, you weaken the Authority, promote Diffidence, and deprive your Measures of that Secrecy, Steadiness, Vigour, and Dispatch, necessary to their Success. The same Means by which you obtained the great Advantages you now enjoy, must be continued, and constantly exerted, to secure and perpetuate them: And, indeed, we can think of no other Form of Government so well adapted, so perfectly congenial to your particular present Circumstances in Bengal.

31. It will not be necessary, we apprehend, to dwell upon a Refutation of the flimsy, but specious, Arguments advanced by Mr. Lyeffer, for immediately filling up the Vacancies at the Board, and pursuing the literal Sense of your Instructions, where you enlarge the Board to Sixteen: We have already shewn, and Mr. Lyeffer does not deny it, that the Business of Burdwan and Midnapoor may be conducted to greater Advantage by junior Servants than by Members of the Council. We have also shewn, that enlarging the Council, beyond the Number required for the Business of the Presidency and Subordinates, has proved injurious to the Company. He knows it is our Determination, that Seven or Eight Members should constantly reside at the Presidency, while all proper Attention shall be given to your Investments and Collections; and this we certainly judge to be the Spirit of your Orders. But if that Gentleman

means that no Act can be valid that is executed by a less Number of Agents than you have expressly appointed, he renders void every Deed, Covenant, Contract, and Obligation, entered into by the Council, since the first Establishment of this Settlement. He even renders null and of no Effect the Treaty with the present Nabob, in which he himself had a principal Share, and which, we believe, is not signed by more than Half the Company's Agents. In a Word, we foresee so many Inconveniences consequent on a literal Compliance with your Instructions, that our Duty obliges us to suspend, and we think our Powers authorize us in suspending, at least, if not revoking, those Orders, until your further Pleasure be known.

32. By consulting our Proceedings of the 10th of August and 18th September, you will be able to judge of the Progress we have made in carrying your Orders into Execution, relative to the Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco. This Subject we considered with all the Attention possible, and Regard to your Interest and the Good of the Service. We found, that to remove the Inconveniences of a free Trade, prevent the Oppressions daily committed, save this valuable Article of Commerce from Ruin, and diffuse the Benefits resulting indiscriminately among all your Servants entitled to Duties, it was necessary to vest the Whole in an exclusive Company composed of the Three first Classes of your covenanted Servants, the Field Officers, Chaplains, and Head Surgeons. In admitting the Field Officers, and stating the Proportions allotted to each Class, we had particular Regard to the present Situation of your Council and Field Officers, who are now excluded many Emoluments they before enjoyed. It is our Opinion, that Gentlemen who have risen to their Stations with Credit and Reputation, are certainly entitled to something more than a Subsistence; they even have a Right to expect such Advantages in your Service as may enable them to return, in a few Years, with Independence to their native Country. With respect to the Company, we are unanimously of Opinion, it is more for their Interest to be considered as Superiors than Proprietors; and as the said Royal Grant of the Dewanny renders the 11th Article unnecessary, we are thereby enabled to subject the Trade to a Duty which will produce a clear annual Revenue of 120,000 Pounds Sterling. Whatever Surplus of their Revenues the Company may find themselves possessed of, after discharging all the Demands on this Presidency, we may imagine may be employed much more to their Benefit, in supporting and extending the China Trade, and assisting the Wants of the other Presidencies. However, should it either appear, that we have mistaken the Company's real Interest, or that the Profits of the Trade will admit of increased Duties, it is our Resolution to give all possible Satisfaction on these Points to our honourable Masters, and to lay before you a fair, full, and candid Representation of the Amount of the Costs, Charges, and Sales, of the first Year.

33. We think it incumbent on us to observe, that the Management of this important Business was committed to Mr. Sumner. If the Plan therefore should prove so fortunate as to meet your Approbation, the Merit is chiefly due to that Gentleman, who spared no Pains to acquire a thorough Insight into the Subject, at the same Time that he discharged the Duties of the Presidency during Lord Clive's Absence much to our Satisfaction. Mr. Sumner would have cheerfully accepted the Post of Resident at the Durbar, now grown an Employment of Consequence since the Grant of the Dewanny; but we judged it to be more becoming his Station, more agreeable to your Intention, and more for the Benefit of the Service, that he should remain at the Presidency, to take Charge of the Government in Case of Lord Clive's Absence. We therefore determined to appoint Mr. Sykes to the Durbar, as he has already sufficiently manifested

nified his Capacity and Diligence in that Employment.

34. When these Dispatches are finished, we resolve to apply ourselves heartily to the Reformation of the Abuses which have crept into almost all your public Offices, and every Department civil and military. The Task is arduous, but not impracticable; and we are assured it becomes highly necessary to the Service. The same Unanimity that has enabled the Committee to dispatch to great a Variety of important Affairs since their Establishment, shall, we hope, be firmly continued and vigorously exerted, until we have accomplished every End proposed at our Appointment, until we have stemmed the Torrent of Luxury and Corruption, and established a Spirit of Industry, Oeconomy, and Integrity, throughout every Class of your Servants.

35. We beg Leave to conclude with assuring you, that it is the highest Ambition of this Committee, to merit the Confidence reposed in them, by promoting, with their utmost Diligence and Abilities, the Honour and Interest of the *East India* Company, which have ever been the Objects of their most fervent Wishes.

We have the Honour to be, with Respect,

Honourable Sirs,  
Your most faithful  
humble Servants,

*Clive,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Fra<sup>s</sup> Sykes.*

Fort William, the 30th  
September 1765.

Supplement.

36. In Justice to the Memory of the late Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, we think it incumbent on us to acquaint you, that the horrible Massacres wherewith he is charged by Mr. *Holwell*, in his "Address to the Proprietors of *East India* Stock." (p. 46) are cruel Aspersions on the Character of that Prince, which have not the least Foundation in Truth. The several Persons there affirmed, and who have been generally thought to have been murdered by his Order, are all now living, except Two, who were put to Death by *Meeran*, without the Nabob's Consent or Knowledge; and it is with additional Satisfaction we can assure you, that they were lately released from Confinement by the present Subah; which fully evinces the entire Confidence he reposes in the Company's Protection, against all Attacks on his Government.

37. We are further to acquaint you, that, not satisfied with paying all due Attention to the Confirmation and Security of your Possessions in *Bengal*, Lord *Clive* has also obtained from the King, *Sunnads* for the Five Northern Provinces, and the strongest Ratification, under his Majesty's Hand and Seal, of all your former Grants in the *Carnatic*.

38. Mr. *Sykes* has exerted his utmost in procuring an exact Estimate of the Amount of the Revenues of the Nabob's Dominions, of which you are now not only the Collectors but the Proprietors;

and we were in Hopes of transmitting an accurate Account of the same by the *Admiral Stevens*; but the Books of the Sircar are so much behind, so many Balances are outstanding, and such Negligence appears in the Collection of the Revenues for some Years past, owing, in some Measure, to the constant Disturbances in the Country, which prevented any regular Collections from being made, that he has not been able yet to succeed to his entire Satisfaction; and we therefore think it better to postpone the Subject till our next Dispatches, when we can write with Precision and Certainty. At present, we can only affirm, that the Acquisition of the Dewanny, and the Agreement with the Nabob, will necessarily turn out a prodigious Increase of your Revenues, at the same Time they must give Stability to your Power and Influence.

39. You will observe, in our General Letter from the Public Department, what has passed in Council on the Subject of the Donation to the Navy; which is, indeed, no more than a Transcript of our Consultations. We here think it necessary to remark, that we cannot, in the present Circumstances of your Affairs, and consistently with our late Engagements with the Nabob, either take upon us to pay so large a Demand out of your Revenues, or insist on the Nabob's paying it out of his limited Stipend; more especially as it appears that the Donation to the Navy was never voluntary, but obtained from *Meer Jaffer* by Dint of Solicitations, and other Means which never had its entire Approbation.

40. It is with some Regret we acquaint you, that we apprehend it will be necessary to resume our late Enquiry into the Conduct of the Gentlemen of the Deputation, having just received Information from *Nundomar* of further Sums paid to them out of the Nabob's Treasury, during their Residence at *Muxadabad*. Mr. *Johnstone* makes a principal and conspicuous Figure in this Account also, having obtained a very large Sum besides what is specified in the Distribution List, or the Narratives of *Mahomed Reza Coon* and *Juggut Seti*; which, with the Sums received by the other Gentlemen, fully accounts for the Nabob's Assertions, in his Letter addressed to the Committee. The Necessity we are under of dispatching the Ship, in order to receive the earliest Notice of your Sentiments on our Proceedings, and your further Instructions, prevents our entering immediately upon the Enquiry; of which, however, you may be assured, we shall transmit a faithful and particular Account in our next Advices.

We have the Honour to be, with Respect,

Honourable Sirs,  
Your most faithful  
humble Servants,

*Clive,*  
*W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Fra<sup>s</sup> Sykes.*

Fort William, the 1st  
October 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 87.

Copy of a Letter from Lord *Clive* to *William B. Sumner*, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated *Great Ganges*, 11th July 1765.

To *Wm. B. Sumner*, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,  
WE have often lamented, that the Gentlemen of Council, by precipitating the late Treaty, had lost the most glorious Opportunity that could ever

happen of settling Matters upon that solid and advantageous Footing for the Company, which no temporary Invasion could endanger. The true and only Security for our Commerce and territorial Possessions in this Country, is, in a Manner, to always have it in our Power to overawe the very Nabob we are bound by Treaty to support; a Maxim contrary to this has of late

late been too much adopted; and from that fundamental Error, as I must call it, has sprung the innumerable Evils, or at least Deficiencies, in our Government; which, I have now the Pleasure to inform you, are in a fair Way of being perfectly removed.

The Nabob, upon my Representation of the great Expence of such an Army as will be necessary to support him in his Government, the large Sums due for Restitution, and to the Navy, together with the Annual Tribute which he will be under a Necessity of paying to the King, hath consented, and I have agreed, provided it should obtain your Approbation, and be duly ratified and confirmed by the King's Firman. That all the Revenues of the Country shall be appropriated to these Purposes, Fifty Laaks of Rupees *per Annum* for himself excepted. Out of this Sum is to be defrayed all his Expences, of every Nature and Denomination, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, however, being of a Disposition extremely timorous, is desirous of having the Payment of the Cavalry and *Scapys* pass through his Hands, though included in the said Fifty Laaks. This, I think, will be complied with.

I am of Opinion also, that certain Stipends (out of the above-mentioned Sum) should be fixed for the Begum, for the Chuta Nabob, and for the rest of the Nabob's Brothers and Nephews (*Merum's* Son included) or else we must be subject to frequent Complaints from these Quarters; for I am persuaded, that the Dependants and Parasites of the present Nabob will always keep him in Distress, be his Income what it may.

Although the Sum proposed to be stipulated for the Nabob, considering the present great Expences and

Demands, may appear large, yet, by what I can learn, his Expence exceeds the Sum to be allowed; and, although it is certain that neither his Education nor Abilities will enable him to appear to any Advantage at the Head of these great and rich Provinces, yet, I think, we are bound in Honour to support the Dignity of his Station, so far as is consistent with the true Interest of the Company.

The Particulars of this Matter may be further adjusted in my Preface by Mr. *Sykes* (to whom I have communicated my Ideas) if the Plan be approved by the Select Committee; and the Whole may be finally concluded to our Satisfaction, upon the Company's being appointed the King's Duan; who will be empowered by the Nature of their Office, as well as by the Nabob's Consent, to settle every Point.

Mr. *Sykes*, I imagine, will find no Difficulty in procuring the Five or Six Laaks of Rupees from the Treasury, to answer the immediate Exigencies of the Company, agreeable to the Representation made to me in your Letter of the 7th Instant, which did not come to my Hands till late in the Evening before I left *Mutejyl*.

In Conformity to your Request in your said Letter, I inclosed Mr. *Vansittart's* Translation of the late Regulations, the Original of which I had the Honour to transmit to you on the 9th Instant. I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
humble Servant,  
*Clive.*

Great Ganges, the  
11th July 1765.

N° 88.

To *Wm. B. Sumner*, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,  
WE had Yesterday a Conference with *Sujab Dowlab*, wherein we informed him of the full Powers with which we are invested by the Select Committee, and our Resolution, in Consequence thereof, to establish a solid Peace, upon Terms honourable and advantageous to the Country Princes, as well as to the Company. We then opened to him such Part of our Plan as related to himself; in particular, we told him, that the Whole of his Country, except *Ilahabad* and its Dependencies, should be restored. His Expressions of Joy and Gratitude upon this Occasion, were many and warm; such an Instance of Generosity in a victorious Enemy, exceeded his most sanguine Expectations; and we doubt not, will be the best Foundation of that Union and Amity, in this Part of *Indostan*, which we so earnestly wish to secure. He consents to pay Fifty Laaks to the Company, for Indemnification, in the following Manner; Ten Laaks in Money, and Ten in Jewels, on the Conclusion of the Treaty; Five Laaks on his being put in Possession of his Country; and the remaining Twenty-five Laak

in the Course of Twelve Months. These Terms are, we think, moderate and equitable, both for him and the Company.

We have been informed, that the King is desirous of possessing *Ilahabad*, which, together with its Dependencies, produces Ten Laaks *per Annum*; and also the Province of *Cerab*, which produces about Eighteen. The former, we are of Opinion, may with great Propriety be ceded to him, as a Royal Revenue; but the latter, we rather wish should be in the Possession of *Sujab Dowlab*; we shall not, however, make a Point of refusing it to his Majesty, if he should be very solicitous to obtain it, unless we judge it incompatible with the rest of our Plan.

We shall not be able to give you any further Information, till we have had a Conference with his Majesty, which, we hope, will be in a few Days, at *Ilahabad*. We are, with great Respect,

Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
and most humble Servants,  
*Clive,*  
*Banaras,*  
3d August 1765.  
*John Carnac.*

N<sup>o</sup> 89.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Esq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

YESTERDAY we paid a Visit to the King upon Business. His Majesty presented Lord Clive with his Demands in the *Persian* Language, a Translation of which is inclosed. He insisted very strenuously that his Revenues should be made agreeable to the Engagements entered into by the late Nabob Meer Jaffer and Cossim Ally Cawn; viz. Twenty-six Laaks of Rupees in Money, and Five and a Half Laak in Jaggiars. This last Article we could not consent to; and the King, with some Difficulty, was persuaded to give it up, on our representing the great Expence of supporting an Army for the Defence of the Provinces, and the large Demand of the young Nabob for the Maintenance of his Forces.

His Majesty then demanded the Payment of all Arrears due to him from the late Nabob Meer Jaffer, Cossim Ally, and the present Nabob Nizam ul Dowla, amounting in the Whole to Thirty-two Laaks; in Answer to which, we pleaded the absolute Impossibility of paying One Rupee, from the Poverty of the Treasury, occasioned by the long and expensive War we had been engaged in, partly on his Majesty's Account, and the great Balance still due from the Nabob for Restitution to the Sufferers. He expressed some Warmth and Displeasure at our Obstinacy on this Point; however, after some Debates, he at last acquiesced.

The next Demand was, that the Countries of Illabad,

bad and Corah (Bukwant Sing's Zamindary excepted) should be ceded to him as a Royal Demefine for the Support of his Dignity. This we very readily consented to, as Sujab Dowla made not the least Objection, well knowing that after our Departure he could easily settle this Matter with the King to the Satisfaction of both Parties. His Majesty engages, however, to allow *Najif Cawn* an handsome annual Allowance, for which the King's Revenues of Bengal are to be Security.

We then presented the King with Two Arzies, desiring he would grant to Nizam a Dowla the Nizamut of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and to the Company the Dewanny of the same Provinces; to both which his Majesty has signed his Fiat, and the proper Instruments for both are now drawing out.

As the King has been prevailed upon to assign to Sujab Dowla Five Laaks of Rupees on his Bengal Revenues, there will be no farther Delay on Account of the first Payment of Indemnification, which is to be Twelve Laaks in Money, and Eight in Jewels.

The Treaty therefore between Sujab Dowla on the one Part, and Nizam a Dowla and the Company on the other, is now drawing out, and we make no Doubt of sending you in a few Days the agreeable News of every Thing being finally settled; and shall follow it ourselves with all possible Expedition. We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Illabad,  
August 12, 1765.

Clive,  
John Carnac.

N<sup>o</sup> 90.

Treaty between the Nabob Shujab ul Dowla, the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the English Company, executed at Illabad, August 16th 1765.

(Sealed and approved by the King.)

WHEREAS the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron Clive of Plassey, Knight Companion of the Most honourable Order of the Bath, Major General and Commander of the Forces, President of the Council, and Governor of Fort William, and of all the Settlements belonging to the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East India, in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa; and John Carnac, Esquire, Brigadier General, Colonel in the Service of the said Company, and Commanding Officer of their Forces upon the Bengal Establishment, are invested with full and ample Powers on the Behalt of his Excellency the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, Subahdar of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and likewise on Behalt of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East India, to negotiate, settle, and finally to conclude, a firm and lasting Peace with his Highness the Nabob Shujab ul Dowla, Vizier of the Empire: Be it known to all those to whom it shall or may in any Manner belong, that the above-named Plenipotentiaries have agreed upon the following Articles with his Highness.

1. A perpetual and univereal Peace, sincere Friend-

ship, and firm Union, shall be established between his Highness Shujab ul Dowla and his Heirs on the one Part, and his Excellency Nudjum ul Dowla and the English East India Company on the other; so that the said contracting Powers shall give the greatest Attention to maintain between themselves, their Dominions, and their Subjects, this reciprocal Friendship, without permitting on either Side any Kind of Hostilities to be committed from henceforth, for any Cause, or under any Pretence whatsoever; and every Thing shall be carefully avoided which might hereafter prejudice the Union now happily established.

2. In Case the Dominions of his Highness Shujab ul Dowla shall at any Time hereafter be attacked, his Excellency Nudjum ul Dowla and the English Company, shall assist him with a Part or the Whole of their Forces, according to the Exigency of his Affairs, and so far as may be consistent with their own Security; and if the Dominions of his Excellency Nudjum ul Dowla, or the English Company, shall be attacked, his Highness shall in like Manner assist them with a Part or the Whole of his Forces: In the Case of the English Company's Forces being employed in his Highness's Service, the extraordinary Expence of the same is to be defrayed by him.

3. His Highness solemnly engages never to entertain or receive Cossim Ally Khan, the late Subahdar of Bengal, &c. Sombroo, the Assassin of the English, nor any of the  
European



European Deserters, within his Dominions, nor to give the least Countenance, Support, or Protection, to them; he likewise solemnly engages to deliver up to the English whatever Europeans may in future desert from them into his Country.

4. The King *Shah Alam* shall remain in full Possession of *Korah*, and such Part of the Province of *Ilahabad* as he now possesses, which are ceded to his Majesty as a Royal Demesne for the Support of his Dignity and Expenses.

5. His Highness *Shujah ul Dowla* engages in the most solemn Manner to continue *Bukwant Sing* in the Zemindarries of *Benares*, *Ghazepore*, and all those Districts he possessed at the Time he came over to the late Nabob *Jaffer Ally Khan* and the English, on Condition of his paying the same Revenue as heretofore.

6. In Consideration of the great Expence incurred by the English Company in carrying on the late War, his Highness agrees to pay them (Fifty) 50 Lacks of Rupees, in the following Manner, viz. (Twelve) 12 Lacks in Money, and a Deposit in Jewels to the Amount of (Eight) 8 Lacks, upon the signing of this Treaty; (Five) 5 Lacks by monthly Payments, so as that the Whole may be discharged in (Thirteen) 13 Months from the Date hereof.

7. It being firmly resolved to restore to his Highness the Country of *Benares*, and the other Districts now rented by *Bukwant Sing*, notwithstanding the Grant of the same from the King to the English Company; it is therefore agreed that they shall be ceded to his Highness in Manner following; viz. They shall remain in the Hands of the English Company, with their Revenues, till the Expiration of the Agreement between *Bukwant Sing* and the Company, being on the 27th of November next; after which his Highness shall enter into Possession, the Fort of *Chunar* excepted, which is not to be evacuated until the Sixth Article of this Treaty be fully complied with.

8. His Highness shall allow the English Company to carry on a Trade Duty free throughout the Whole of his Dominions.

9. All the Relations and Subjects of his Highness, who in any Manner assisted the English during the Course of the late War, shall be forgiven, and no Ways molested for the same.

10. As soon as this Treaty is executed, the English Forces shall be withdrawn from the Dominions of his Highness, excepting such as may be necessary for the Garrison of *Chunar*, or for the Defence and Protection of the King in the City of *Ilahabad*, if his Majesty should require a Force for that Purpose.

11. His Highness the Nabob *Shujah ul Dowla*, his Excellency the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla*, and the English Company, promise to observe sincerely and strictly all the Articles contained and settled in the present Treaty; and they will not suffer the same to be infringed, directly or indirectly, by their respective Subjects; and the said contracting Powers generally and

reciprocally guarantee to each other all the Stipulations of the present Treaty.

Signed, sealed, and solemnly sworn to, according to their respective Faiths, by the contracting Parties, at *Ilahabad*, this 16th Day of August, in the Year of our Lord 1765, in the Presence of us

*Edmund Maffelkne,*  
*Archibald Swinton,*  
*George Vanfistari.*

Fort William, Sept. 30th, 1765.

(A true Copy.)  
*Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.*

*Clive I. S.*  
*John Carnac (L. S.)*

*Shujah ul Dowla's Seal*  
(L. S.)  
and Ratification.  
*Mirza Cuffin Khan,*  
*Rajah Settebroy,*  
*Meer Musfala.*

Articles of Agreement between the King *Shah Alam* and the Company, relating to the Tribute to be paid to him from the Revenues of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, dated August 19th 1765.

The Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla* agrees to pay to his Majesty, out of the Revenues of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, the Sum of 26 Lacks of Rupees a Year, without any Deduction for Batta on Bills of Exchange, by regular Monthly Payments, amounting to Rupees 216,666, 10. 9 per Month, the first Payment to commence from the 1st September of the present Year; and the English Company, in Consideration of his Majesty's having been graciously pleased to grant them the Dewannee of *Bengal*, &c. do engage themselves to be Security for the regular Payment of the same. It shall be paid Month by Month from the Factory of *Patna* to *Rajah Shitebroy*, or whomsoever his Majesty may think proper to nominate, that it may be forwarded by him to the Court; but in Case the Territories of the aforesaid Nabob be invaded by any foreign Enemy, a Deduction is then to be made out of the stipulated Revenues, proportionable to the Damage that may be sustained.

In Consideration of *Nudjum Khan's* having joined the English Forces, and acted in his Majesty's Service in the late War, his Majesty will be graciously pleased to allow him the Sum of Two Lacks of Rupees a Year, to be paid by equal Monthly Payments; the first Payment to commence from the 1st of September of the present Year; and in Default thereof, the English Company, who are Guarantees for the same, will make it good out of the Revenue allotted to his Majesty from the Territories of *Bengal*. If the Territories of *Bengal* should, at any Time, be invaded, and on that Account a Deduction be made out of the Royal Revenue, in such Case a proportionable Deduction shall also be made out of *Nudjum Khan's* Allowance.

Dated the 19th of August 1765.

Fort William, 30th September 1765.

(A true Copy)  
*Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.*

## Nº 21.

Firmaun from the King *Shah Alam*, granting the Dewannee of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, to the Company. Dated August 12th 1765.

AT this happy Time, our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring Obedience, is issued: That whereas, in Consideration of the Attachment and Services of the High and Mighty, the Noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our royal Favours, the English Company, we have granted them the De-

wannee of the Provinces of *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, from the Beginning of the Fussil Rubby of the *Bengal* Year 1171, as a free Gift and Ulumgau, without the Association of any other Person, and with an Exemption from the Payment of the Customs of the Dewannee, which used to be paid to the Court; it is requisite that the said Company engage to be Security for the Sum of Twenty-

Twenty-six Lacks of Rupees a Year, for our Royal Revenue, which Sum has been appointed from the Nabob: *Nudjum ul Dowla Babader*, and regularly remit the same to the Royal Sircar: And in this Case, as the said Company are obliged to keep up a large Army for the Protection of the Provinces of *Bengal, &c.* we have granted to them whatsoever may remain out of the Revenues of the said Provinces, after remitting the Sum of Twenty-six Lacks of Rupees to the Royal Sircar, and providing for the Expences of the Nizamut: It is requisite that our Royal Descendants the Viziers, the Bestowers of Dignity, the Omrahs high in Rank, the great Officers, the *Mutasafdees* of the Dewannee, the Managers of the Bussines of the Sultanat, the Jagheer-dars and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant Endeavours for the Establishment of this our Royal Command, leave the said Office in Possession of the said Company, from Generation to Generation, for ever and ever; looking upon them to be injured from Dismission or Removal, they must on no Account whatsoever give them any Interruption; and they must regard them as excused and exempted from the Payment of all the Customs of the Dewannee, and Royal Demands. Knowing our Orders on the Subject to be most strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of *Sophar* of the 6th Year of the Jaloos (the 12th Aug. 1765.)

#### Contents of the Zimmua.

Agreeably to the Paper which has received our Sign Manual, our Royal Commands are issued: That, in Consideration of the Attachment and Services of the high and mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our Royal Favours, the *English* Company, we have granted them the Dewannee of the Provinces of *Bengal, Babar*, and *Orissa*, from the Beginning of the Fulful Rubby of the *Bengal* Year, 1172, as a free Gift and *Ultumgau*, without the Association of any other Person, and with an Exemption from the Customs of the Dewannee, which used to be paid to the Court, on Condition of their being Security for the Sum of Twenty-six Lacks of Rupees a Year for our Royal Revenue; which Sum has been appointed from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla Babader*; and after remitting the Royal Revenue, and providing for the Expences of the Nizamut, whatsoever may remain we have granted to the said Company.

The Dewannee of the Province of *Bengal*.

The Dewannee of the Province of *Babar*.

The Dewannee of the Province of *Orissa*.

#### No 92.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

Firmaun in Confirmation of Lord Clive's Jagheer.

WHEREAS a Sunnud has been presented to us under the Seal of the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla Babader*, to the following Purport; viz. "The Sum of 2,22,958 Sicca Rupees and odd, agreeably to the Dewannee Sunnud, and the Sunnud of the High and Mighty *Shuja-ul-Moalk Kifam ul-Dowla Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn Babader*, has been appointed from the Pergunna of *Calcutta, &c.* in the Sircar of *Sau-gaum, &c.* in the Province of *Bengal* (the Paradise of the Earth) the Zemindarry of the *English* Company, as an unconditional Jagheer to the High and Mighty *Zuhdi-ul-Moalk Nasser-ul-Dowla Lord Clive Babader*; now likewise the said Pergunnahs are confirmed as an unconditional Jagheer to the High and Mighty aforeaid, from the 16th of May of the 1764th Year of the Christian Style (answering to the 14th of Zeeada of the 1177 of the Hegyra) to the Expiration of Ten Years, they shall appertain as an unconditional Jagheer to the High and Mighty aforeaid; and after the Expiration of this Term, they shall revert as an unconditional Jagheer and perpetual Gift to the Company; and if the High and Mighty aforeaid should die within the said Term, they shall revert to the Company immediately upon his Death. And whereas the said Sunnud has met with our Approbation, at this happy Time therefore our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring Obedience, is issued; that in Consideration of the Fidelity of the *English* Company, and the High and Mighty aforeaid, the said Jagheer stand confirmed agreeably to the aforeaid Sunnud. It is requisite that the present and future *Mutasafdees*, the Chowdries, Canongoes, Mucudims, Ryots, Muzzaries, and all other Inhabitants of the Pergunna of *Calcutta, &c.* in the Sircar of *Sau-gaum, &c.* regard the High and Mighty aforeaid,

"during the forementioned Term, and after him the Company aforeaid as unconditional Jagheer-dars, and regularly pay them the Revenues of the said Pergunnas."

Written the 24th of *Soffer* of the 6th Year of the Jaloos (the 12th of August 1765.)

#### Contents of the Zimmua.

Agreeably to the Paper which has received our Sign Manual, our Royal Commands are issued: That whereas the Sum of 2,22,958 Sicca Rupees, and odd, has been appointed from the Pergunnahs of *Calcutta, &c.* in the Sircar of *Sau-gaum, &c.* the Zemindarry of the *English* Company, as an unconditional Jagheer to the High and Mighty *Zuhdi-ul-Moalk Nasser-ul-Dowla Lord Clive Babader*, agreeably to the Dewannee Sunnud, and Sunnud of the Nazim of the Province; in Consideration therefore, of the Attachment of the High and Mighty aforeaid, we have been graciously pleased to confirm to him the said Pergunnahs for the Space of Ten Years, commencing from the 16th of May of the 1764th Year of the Christian Style, or 14th of Zeeada, of the 1177th Year of the Hegyra; and in Consideration of the Attachment of the *English* Company, we have granted the said Pergunnahs to them, after the Expiration of the aforeaid Term, as an unconditional Jagheer and perpetual Gift; and if the High and Mighty aforeaid should die within this Term, the said Pergunnahs are to revert immediately to the *English* Company.

A true Translation.

George Vansittart,  
Persian Translator.

Nº 93.

Firmaun from the King *Shah Aalum*, confirming to the Company the Chuchlahs of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Cbittagong*, and the Twenty-four Purgunnahs of *Calcutta*, &c. before ceded to them by the Nabobs *Meer Cossim Ally Khan*, and *Meer Jaffer Ally Khan*. Dated *August 12th*, 1765.

AT this happy Time, Our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring Obedience, is issued: That the Chuchlahs of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Cbittagong*, &c. and also the Twenty-four Purgunnahs of *Calcutta*, &c. (the Zemindarry of the High and Mighty, the Noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, Our faithful Servants, and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of Our Royal Favours, the *English* Company) which were granted to the said Company in the Time of *Meer Mahomed Cossim*, and *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Khan*, deceased; We, in Consideration of the Attachment of the said Company, have been graciously pleased to confirm to them, from the Beginning of the Fullul Rubby of the *Bengal* Year 1172, as a free Gift and Ultungau, without the Association of any other Person. It is requisite that Our Royal Descendants, the Viziers, the Bestowers of Dignity, the Omrahs high in Rank, the Great Officers, the Muttafdees of the Dewannee, the Managers of the Buisines of the Saltanur, the Jagheer-dars and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant Endeavours for the Establishment of this Our Royal Command, leave the said Districts and Purgunnahs in Possession of the said Company, from Generation to Generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be insured from Dismission or Removal, they must on no Account whatsoever give them any Interruption; and they must regard them as excused and

exempted from the Payment of all Manner of Customs and Demands. Knowing our Orders on this Subject to be most strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of *Sopbar*, of the 6th Year of the Jaloos, (the 12th of *August* 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the Paper which has received our Sign Manual, our Royal Commands are issued: That the Chuchlahs of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Cbittagong*, &c. and also the Twenty-four Purgunnahs of *Calcutta*, &c. (the Zemindarry of the *English* Company) which were granted to the said Company in the Time of *Meer Mahomed Cossim*, and *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Khan*, deceased, be confirmed to the said Company, as a free Gift and Ultungau, without the Association of any other Person.

Chuchlah of *Burdwan*.  
Chuchlah of *Midnapore*.  
Chuchlah of *Cbittagong*.

The Twenty-four Purgunnahs of *Calcutta*, &c. (the Zemindarry of the *English* Company.)

*Fort William*, September 30th 1765.  
(A true Copy.)  
*Alex. Campbell*, S. S. C.

Nº 94.

*Fort William*, the 7th September 1765.

Firmaun confirming the Company's Possessions in the *Carnatic*.

AT this happy Time, our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring Obedience, is issued: That whatsoever in the Sircar of the *Carnatic* was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given, in the Neighbourhood of *Madras*, &c. by the Nabob *Seraje-ul-Dowla*, to the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our Royal Favours, the *English* Company; We, in Consideration of the Attachment and Services of the said Company, have been graciously pleased to confirm to them, as a free Gift and Ultungau, without the Association of any other Person. It is requisite that our Royal Descendants, the Viziers, the Bestowers of Dignity, the Omrahs high in Rank, the Great Officers, the Muttafdues of the Dewannee, the Managers of the Buisines of the Sultanur, the Jagheer-dars and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant Endeavours for the Establishment of this our Royal Command, leave the said Sircar in Possession of the said Company, from Generation to Generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be insured from Dismission or Removal, they must, on no Account whatsoever, give them any Interruption, and they must regard them as excused and

exempted from the Payment of all Manner of Customs and Demands. Knowing our Orders on this Subject to be most strict, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of *Soffar*, of the 6th Year of the Jaloos, (the 12th of *August* 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the Paper which has received our Sign Manual, whatsoever in the Sircar of the *Carnatic* was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given, in the Neighbourhood of *Madras*, &c. by the Nabob *Seraje-ul-Dowla*, to the High and Mighty, the Noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our Royal Favours, the *English* Company; We, in Consideration of the Attachment and Services of the said Company, have been graciously pleased to confirm to them, from the Beginning of the Fullul Rubby *Tuccavery al* of the *Bengal* Year 1172, as a free Gift and Ultungau, without the Association of any other Person.

A true Translation.  
*George Panfittari*,  
Persian Translator.

## N° 95.

Firmaun for *Seecacool, &c.* being for the Five Northern Provinces.

**WHEREAS** *Salabut Jung*, Subadar of the *Daccan*, having given the Sircar of *Seecacool, &c.* to the *French* Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the Royal Firmaun granted, the *English* Company, who are our sincere Well-wishers, sent a large Force and drove them out. At this happy Time our Royal Firmaun, indispensably requiring Obedience, is issued; that in Consideration of the Fidelity of the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our Royal Favours, the *English* Company, we have granted them the said Sircars, agreeably to the Zimmun, as a free Gift and Utumgau, without the Association of any other Person, from the Beginning of the Fussul Rubby of the *Bengal* Year 1172. It is requisite that our Royal Descendants, the Viziers, the Bestowers of Dignity, the Omrahs high in Rank, the great Officers, the Muttasuddies of the Dewanner, the Managers of the Business of the Sultannat, the J-gheerders and Croories, as well the future as the present, using their constant Endeavours for the Establishment of this our Royal Command, leave the said Districts in Possession of the said Company, from Generation to Generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be injured from Dimission or Removal, they must on no Account whatsoever give them any Interruption; and they must regard them as excused and exempted from the Payment of all Manner of Customs and Demands. Knowing our Orders on this Sub-

ject to be most strict and positive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of *Suffer*, of the 6th Year of the *Jaloos* (the 12th *August* 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Whereas *Salabut Jung*, Subadar of the *Daccan*, having given the Sircars of *Seecacool, &c.* to the *French* Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the Royal Firmaun granted, the *English* Company, who are our sincere Well-wishers, sent a large Force and drove them out, agreeably to the Arzee of the 24th of *Suffer* of the 6th Year, which has received our Sign Manual; our Royal Commands are issued, That we have granted to the High and Mighty, the noblest of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illustrious Warriors, our faithful Servants and sincere Well-wishers, worthy of our Royal Favours, the *English* Company, in Consideration of their Fidelity, the said Sircars as a free Gift and Utumgau, without the Association of any other Person.

Sircar *Seecacool*.

Sircar *Rejemundry*.

Sircar *Eloor*.

Sircar *Mushappa-Nuggur*.

Sircar *Moorlasy-Nuggur* or *Cuttoor*.

A true Translation.

*George Vanfiliart,*

*Persian Translator.*

## N° 96.

Agreement between the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla* and the Company, relating to the Allowance to be paid him for the Support of the Nizamut of *Bengal, &c.* dated *September* 30th 1765.

**THE** King having been graciously pleased to grant to the *English* Company the Dewannee of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa* with the Revenues thereof, as a free Gift, for ever, on certain Conditions; whereof one is, That there shall be a sufficient Allowance out of the said Revenues for supporting the Expences of the Nizamut: Be it known to all whom it may concern, That I do agree to accept of the annual Sum of *Sicca* Rupees 5,386,131. 9, as an adequate Allowance for the Support of the Nizamut; which is to be regularly paid as follows; viz. The Sum of *Sicca* Rupees 1,778,854. 1, for all my Household Expences, Servants, &c. and the remaining Sum of Rupees 3,607,277. 8, for the Maintenance of such Horle, Sepoys, Peons, Bercundaffes,

&c. as may be thought necessary for my Sewaury, and the Support of my Dignity only, should such an Expence hereafter be found necessary to be kept up, but on no Account ever to exceed that Amount; and having a perfect Reliance on *Maeen ul Dowla*, I desire he may have the disbursing of the above Sum of Rupees 3,607,277. 8, for the Purposes beforementioned. This Agreement, by the Blessing of God, I hope, will be inviolably observed, as long as the *English* Company's Factories continue in *Bengal*.

(A true Copy)

*Alexander Campbell, S. S. C.*

*Fort William,*

the 30th *September* 1765.

N° 97.

A STATEMENT of Charges which were allowed for the Collections of the *Babar* Province, in *Bengal* Year 1172, or *English* Year 1765; viz.

W A G E S.

Amlah Sapaw, or Wages to Afiwars, Burgundaffes, &c. from 1st of *Jumadil Owel* to the End of *Rubby Sanny Shon* 6 is Twelve Months.

Afiwars	874169	3	10
Burgundaffes	198799	11	15
Khalburdars	49000	—	—
Chubdars, Kiffnutgars, Sutaburdars, &c. Servants	236648	10	—
Juzzoulburdars, or Mufqueteers	24510	—	—
Tellingah Scapoys	7364	—	—

1390492 10 5

Sirriffa Dewanny ba Efim Nabob *Ackramut Dowla Babadre*, &c. Bamurjema Tuffil Allahy-dah, or Wages of the aforefaid Nabob and his People, Particulars of this shall be hereafter wrote, as soon as they can be obtained from the *Paina* Congos

163443 11 10

Mutfurcaut, or Wages to People of Distinction that have been servicable in the Government, viz.

Nabob <i>Ackedutmund Cawn</i> , at 220 Rs. per Month for 12 Months, is	2400	—	—
<i>Shaik Mahmud Punnab</i>	1745	12	—
<i>Fazze Ally Cawn</i>	11550	—	—
<i>Mirza Mahmud Hussen</i>	1634	—	—
<i>Himmut Cawn</i> , Son to <i>Muffall Cawn</i>	2990	—	—
Nabob <i>Abdul Ally Cawn</i>	12000	—	—
<i>Share Ally Cawn</i>	3600	—	—
<i>Abdool Cader Cawn</i>	360	—	—
<i>Murrallydur</i> , &c. Hircarrahs	10676	15	—
<i>Meer Cullen</i> , Perfume Maker	275	—	—

47231 11 —

*Meer Mahmud Jummaul*, &c. *Tynaut Hoozor Jonab Ally*, or *Meer Mahmud Jummaul*, &c. who is the Prefence of Nabob *Najemud Douls* in *Muxadavad*, but receives his and his People's Wages from Subah *Babar*; viz.

<i>Meer Mahmud Jummaul</i>	366697	12	10
<i>Mirza Mahmud Ruffy</i>	44100	—	—
<i>Connuck Sing Cbowdry</i> and Beldars	31594	3	—

442392 15 10

Crutch Khonfummany, or Charges of Nabob's Elephants, Camels, Horses, Bullocks, &c. Ze-afut Ingrez Sau-ha, bon Huful Crutch, or Invitations and Entertainments of *English* Gentlemen, Charges already made

65000 — —

45373 2 5

Rupees of Sorts

2153934 2 10

HUCKECUT BUNDABUST, SUBA BAHAN, or Statement of Revenues to be received from the *Babar* Province in *Bengal* Year 1172, or *English* 1765, the Collection to conclude in *Affin* Year 1173 or *English* September 1766; *viz.*

Bomurjem Affrad Bundbust, or the Amount agreeable to the Account Particulars settled by Mahmud Raza Cawn, Rajab Doolubram, and Juggut Seat	—	—	—	4745501 15 10
Goonjoyfe Mahalat, or Profit on Mahalls, &c.	—	—	—	51000 — —

Joyguires, &c. to be received, Particulars of these shall be wrote as soon as procured; *viz.*

Nabob Najem ul Dowlab	—	—	902960 8 15	
Joyguier daran, or Joyguires allowed to different Persons, none of whom are now existing, and which Sums have been appropriated to any improper Use	195830 11 5	67908 12 10	26928 7 5	
	—	—	290707 15 —	
				1193668 7 15
Babut Yafz, Subadavry ou Dewanny, or the Amount whatever to be received by the Nabob of that Province for himself, and the Padshahs Dewan, as their real Profits	—	—	500000 — —	
Deduct allowed Rajah Doolubram, and Mahmud Reza Cawn, as Dufstore or Custom	—	—	171000 — —	
				329000 — —

Deduct Crutch Bomurjem Affrad Allahiddah, or Charges allowed to the Nabob, &c. for collecting in the Revenues, even other contingent Charges attending the same, as now settled; *viz.*

Affwars	—	—	210000	
Burgundaffes	—	—	80000	
Nabob's own Servants, as Chubdars, Sutarbur-dars, &c.	—	—	120000	
Calburdars or Musquetiers	—	—	12000	
			422000 — —	
Sirreflah Dewanny, or Wages of Nabob, &c.; <i>viz.</i> Nabob Abatramut Dowlab, and his Family, A. Rs. 15000 per Menssem	—	—	180000	
Maharaza Deruznarrain 7500 A. Rs. per Menssem	—	—	90000	
			270000 — —	
Muddut Crutch, or Wages allowed yearly to People of Distinction, that have been serviceable in the Government; <i>viz.</i>				
Nabob Abdul Aly Cawn	—	—	12000	
Nabob Eekydtumund Cawn	—	—	2400	
Aly Cooly Cawn	—	—	12600	
Share Aly Cawn	—	—	2400	
Himmus Cawn	—	—	2400	
Fyz Aly Cawn's Children	—	—	13800	
Meeriyakur, &c. excepting Hircarrahs	—	—	7800	
Golaum Caddaur Cawn	—	—	360	
Meer Cullen, Perfume Maker	—	—	360	
Ismael Aly Cawn	—	—	1800	
Sbatk Abdul Hussen	—	—	600	
Mofeyt Sing	—	—	2400	
			58920 — —	
				750920 — —
				Rupees 5568250 7 5

SUBAH BAHAR PROVINCE.

D.

To Amount which is to be paid Annually to different Persons in Consequence of their having Sumuds, as per Account :

Joyguers	—	477141	1 15
Altumnuggah	—	297300	15 5
Muddunnoh	—	59804	1 15

To Amount allowed to Mahmud Reza Cawn and Doolabram as Duftore — — — — —  
To Muddut Crutch, or Charges as now settled for the Collections of this Year by Mahmud Reza Cawn, &c. cannot be reduced — — — — —

To Balance to be received this Year — — — — —

Rupces

C.

By Jumna Benmgen Rundbuff, or Amount of to be received agreeable to the Statement — — — — —  
By Babut Goonjoys, or Profit on Pergumahs and Mahalls, the Particulars shall be hereafter wrote as soon as procured — — — — —

4796501. 15 10

By Amount of particular Accounts of wharabe Subah, &c. received Yearly for Charges formerly to the Year 1173, are now brought to Account, viz.

JOYGUIRES; viz.

Nabob Nejim ul Dowla — — — — — 902960 8 15  
Joyguierdaron, or Joyguies, as allowed to different Persons — — — — — 673011 12 15

Altumnuggah or Charity — — — — — — — — —  
Muddunnoh — — — — — — — — —

1575978 5 10  
305209 12 —  
77532 9 —

By Yaff Subadary on Dewanny, as per Account — — — — —

Rupces

2018714 10 10  
500000 — —  
7315216 10 10

N<sup>o</sup> 98.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &amp;c. &amp;c.

My Lord,

IT is with the utmost Satisfaction we have the Honour to congratulate your Lordship on your safe Return to the Presidency, and to express our earnest Approbation of the prudent and effectual Measures you have pursued to stop the Effusion of human Blood, to lay the Foundation of future Tranquillity to these unhappy Provinces, which have long been the Scene of Desolation, to ease the Company from the insupportable Weight of a ruinous War, and to bring to a prosperous Issue the several important Objects recommended to your Attention by this Committee.

The obtaining so extraordinary an Acquisition of Revenue and Influence to the Company, by Means the most likely to conciliate the Affections of the Country Powers, and secure their Repose and Happiness, are Services of such evident and essential Consequences, as cannot fail to increase your Lordship's high Reputation

with the Public, and justify our Constituents in vesting this Committee with plenary Powers, to pursue whatever Measures should appear to us conducive to the public Good.

Firmly persuaded that it is necessary to the Security of the valuable Possessions they now enjoy, and to the very Existence of the Company in Bengal, as well as conformable to the Spirit of our Appointment, that we continue to exert our Authority, in order to effect that general Reformation so necessary in itself and agreeable to the Wishes of the honourable Court of Directors; we beg Leave to repeat to your Lordship, that the same Confidence and Unanimity which have hitherto subsisted among the several Members of this Committee, shall be continued in the Prosecution of this arduous but salutary Undertaking.

We remain, with Sentiments of the greatest Esteem,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,  
and most humble Servants.

Fort William,  
the 7th September 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 99.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

To Brigadier General John Carnac.

Sir,

WE embrace with Pleasure the Opportunity which your Return to the Settlement affords us of offering you our Thanks for your faithful Services done the Public; particularly for your steady Perseverance in reducing *Saja Dowla* to the Necessity of Submission; and the farther Attention you have shewn to the Interest of the Company, and Honour of this Committee, by co-operating so cordially with Lord Clive, in attaining the several important Objects recommended in our Instructions.

Justly sensible of the Regard you have ever paid to the Interest of your Constituents, we assure ourselves that you will continue to exert the same Zeal, as a Member of the Select Committee, and join heartily with us in assisting his Lordship to bring to a happy Conclusion the many and essential Points that still remain to be adjusted, if we would secure the important Advantages already obtained, give Stability to the Regulations we have established, and Permanence to the Treaties we have executed.

We beg Leave to assure you that we are, with great Esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants.

N<sup>o</sup> 100.

Lord Clive's Letter to the Court of Directors, the 28th November 1765.

Gentlemen,

1. I Embrace the Opportunity of a Ship being under Dispatch for *Buffora*, to make known to you such Occurrences as have happened here since the sailing of the *Admiral Stevens* on the 9th of last Month, in Hopes that it may arrive in Time for us to receive your Commands by some of the latter Ships of the Year 1766.

2. The Resignation of Messrs. *Senior*, *Burdett*, and *Gray*, and Suspension of Mr. *Leycester*, has reduced us in Committee to the Necessity of desiring the Gentlemen of *Madras* to spare us Messrs. *Russell*, *Aldersey*, *Kelsall*, and *Floyer*, who we propose shall give us their Assistance in Council until your Pleasure be known.

3. To enter into Particulars would take up too much Time, and might be imprudent in a Dispatch of this Nature: I shall therefore only repeat what I have already had the Honour of representing to you, That Luxury, Extravagance, and Corruption, together with an independent Way of thinking and acting, have arisen to such a Height in this Settlement, that the most vigorous Measures are absolutely necessary; and if you, Gentlemen, do not strengthen my Hands, by approving the Steps we have taken, particularly by confirming the *Madras* Gentlemen in the Posts of which we have appointed them, and by entrusting me with sufficient Powers, I am convinced that the Service I may have rendered the Company, by my Re-



Re-acceptance of this Government, will be in many Respects of a very short Duration, since every Thing will infallibly revert to the old Channel as soon as my Back is turned : The Measures hitherto proposed and pursued for the Attainment of that Reformation which must take Place, have been strenuously supported by Messrs. Carnac, Verelst, and Sykes. General Carnac intends resigning the Service, and accompanying me to Europe. Messrs. Verelst and Sykes are highly deserving of every Encouragement that can be offered, to prevail upon them to continue in this Country : Not one of the Gentlemen next to the Councilmen, even so low as Mr. Bolis (Mr Rumbold excepted) is worthy a Seat at the Board ; many of them are deficient in Abilities, and all in Principle ; and as to the Gentlemen of lower Standing, they are not only too young, but too strongly tainted with the Corruption of late Times, to be so soon intrusted with Power. The only Measure therefore that can insure Stability to the Plan of Government and Reformation which I have been labouring to establish, is, the Appointment of the *Madras* Gentlemen, and the limiting (I do not mean curtailing) the Advantages of future Governors ; together with a Power lodged somewhere to nominate the Members who shall compose the Select Committee after my Departure.

I can now, with the greatest Pleasure, inform you, that the State of the Treasury is such, and the Revenues of the Country since the Acquisition of the Dewannee have flowed in so fast, that we shall not, through Necessity, draw upon you for a Rupee, although we have determined to send £. 300,000 this Year to China : The Returns for Coral and small Bills drawn upon you for Necessaries may amount to Five or Six Lacks.

The refusing to grant Bills will undoubtedly throw large Sums into the Hands of Foreigners, particularly

of the *Dutch*, as immoderate Riches have been lately acquired : But I do not think we can be justified in wantonly drawing upon our Employers, to the Amount of several Hundred Thousand Pounds, while we have more Cash than sufficient to answer every Purpose for the Company. However, as the Acquisition of Fortunes will not be so rapid in future, some Method may be fixed on, for the remitting of Money by your Servants, without so much Benefit to our Rivals.

In the Course of the ensuing Year, we shall certainly pay off upwards of Thirty Lacks of the Company's Bond Debt.

By this Conveyance I shall only further add, that it is my Resolution to adhere firmly to the true Interest of the Company in these Parts, notwithstanding the Odium I undergo in the Pursuit of impartial and disinterested Measures.

Permit me, Gentlemen, to hope, that whilst I am framing and carrying into Execution such Regulations, in every Department Abroad, as I am convinced are most essentially and immediately requisite, you will not be infensible to the Danger of their being soon relaxed, and perhaps totally neglected, unless supported by the strictest Orders from Home.

If what I have done be approved, and, by the Authority of the Court of Directors, rendered incapable of being subverted by my Successors, I shall return from the laborious Accomplishment of your Wishes and Expectations with the fullest Satisfaction.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, and most humble Servant,

Clive.

Calcutta, 28th November 1765.

N° 101.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

41. NO Success in carrying on the War against *Sujab Dowla*, to give his Country to the King, can justify the Measure. *Sujab Dowla's* Letter of the 3d January, offering to withdraw his Protection from *Cassim Ally*, to enter into Friendship with you, and join your Army in pursuing him, was the Opportunity that ought to have been embraced for putting an End to the War ; that passed, your fatal Engagements with the King were left to operate with their utmost Force ; all Sight of the Company's Interest was from that Moment lost, and one Error has plunged you into many more. The Reply you make to the above Offer of *Sujab Dowla*, when you demand he shall put them to Death, we cannot suppose seriously meant ; for if the Law of Hospitality forbid his delivering them up, surely it forbid his murdering them.

22. In Consultation the 28th January, Mention is made of some subsequent Letters from *Sujab Dowla* to Major Fletcher, which are but slightly mentioned therein, and appear no where entered in your Correspondence ; the only Observation made on them is, that you were too far engaged with the King to recede. In the last Letter, we in general Terms condemned this Treaty with the King, and flattered ourselves you would have seen the Folly thereof, or *Meer Jaffer's* Death, or the Arrival of Lord Clive, would have prevented the Execution of it ; but being disappointed in our Expectations, we now shall give you our Sentiments at large. The dispossessing *Sujab Dowla* of his Country, is, we apprehend, breaking down the strongest Barrier we

could have had, against the *Affghans*, *Morattas*, and all the Invaders of the Empire, who were checked from penetrating into the Eastern Provinces, by a Power so respectable as his was throughout *Indostan*. The raising the King on his Ruins, renders this Danger still more striking ; because all the Northern Powers are his natural Enemies, being attached to the Vizier *Gar o-din Cawn* ; and you own yourselves, in the Reply to Mr. Gray's Minutes, in Consultation 20th February 1765, that though the Title to the Crown is contested, all Parties seem to unite in opposing the Claim of him you acknowledge King ; and it is to be feared they will come down upon him before his Strength is confirmed ; and thus you may have drawn the Wars that have so long distracted the Northern Countries, to your own Frontiers.

23. We have no Opinion the King can possibly maintain himself without your utmost Assistance, nor do we imagine *Sujab Dowla* is so reduced as not to make Head again ; and the Result will be, we shall have a War to maintain Six hundred Miles from our own Settlement, from the Success of which no possible Advantage can be derived, and One Defeat may be the total Loss of the Province.

24. In your Engagements with the King, we remark the Stipulation for the Charges of the War was unsettled, and we have much Reason to apprehend the whole Expence will be left on the *Bengal* Government.

25. We now come to consider the Measures you took on the Death of *Jaffer Ally Cawn*. — We could have wished

wished the Succession had been left undetermined until Lord Clive's Arrival; but if it was absolutely necessary to come to a sudden Determination, and that some one must be immediately acknowledged Soubah, it was consistent with the Faith we owed the Father, to adopt the Succession, he designed; and, the Inexperience of the young Soubah considered, you did right to appoint him a Regent; but in the Choice of *Mahmud Reza Cawn* we think you pallied too slightly over the Charge urged against him, of being so very deficient in accounting for the Revenues of the Province, of which he had been Governor.

26. The appointing of independant Duans appears highly improper to us; for it is intruding on the Powers of the Regent, weakening his Government, and tending to Anarchy; nor can we conceive that any *Englishman* is Master enough of the Forms of Government, to undertake the dividing their Departments, without introducing Confusion.

27. With respect to the Treaty with *Nazem-o-Dowla*, it is proper here to insert at Length the 5th Article, which runs in these Words, "I do ratify and confirm to the *English* the Privilege granted them by their *Phirmaund*, and several *Hutbulhookums*, of carrying on their Trade by Means of their own Dufftuck, free from all Duties, Taxes, or Impositions, in all Parts of the Country, excepting in the Article of Salt, on which a Duty of 2½ per Cent. is to be levied on the *Rowana* or *Hongly* Market Price." This Fifth Article is totally repugnant to our Orders, contained in our General Letter, by the *Kent* and *Lapwing*, dated the 1st June 1764; in which we not only expressed our Abhorrence of an Article in the Treaty with *Meer Yaffier*, literally corresponding with the present 5th Article, but in positive Terms directed you, in Concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable Plan for carrying on the Inland Trade, and transmit the same to us, accompanied by such Explanations and Remarks as might enable us to give our Sentiments and Directions thereupon. We must remind you too, that in our said General Letter we expressly directed, That our Orders in our Letter of the 8th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual End to the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and in all other Articles produced and consumed in the Country, should remain in Force until an equitable and satisfactory Plan could be formed and adopted. As therefore there is not the least Latitude given you for concluding any Treaty whatsoever respecting this Inland Trade, we must and do consider what you have done as an express Breach and Violation of our Orders, and as a determined Resolution to sacrifice the Interest of the Company, and the Peace of the Country, to lucrative and selfish Views.

28. This unaccountable Behaviour puts an End to all Confidence in those who made this Treaty, and forces us to resolve on Measures for the Support of our Authority, and the Preservation of the Company; we do therefore pronounce, that every Servant concerned in that Trade stands guilty of a Breach of his Covenants with us, and of our Orders; and in Consequence of this Resolution we positively direct, that if that Treaty is now subsisting, you make a formal Renunciation, by some solemn Act to be entered on your Records, of all Right under the said Treaty, or otherwise, to trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco; and you transmit this Renunciation of that Part of the Treaty in Form to the Nabob in the *Persian* Language. Whatever Government may be established, or whatever unforeseen Circumstances may arise, it is our Resolution to prohibit, and we do absolutely forbid, this Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and of all Articles that are not for Export and Import, according to the Spirit of the *Phirmaund*, which does not in the least give any Latitude whatever for carrying on such an Inland Trade; and moreover, we shall deem every *European*

concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a Breach of his Covenants, and direct that he be forthwith sent to *England*, that we may proceed against him accordingly; and every Native who shall avail himself of our Protection, to carry this Trade on, without paying all the Duties due to the Government, equally with the rest of the Nabob's Subjects, shall forfeit that Protection, and be banished the Settlement. And we direct that these Resolutions be signified publicly throughout the Settlement.

29. With respect to the 11th Article of the Treaty, which settles the Restitution for private Losses, we gave you our Sentiments on that Subject very fully in our Letter of the 24th December; in which we remain confirmed, and our Orders relative thereto stand in full Force. We also continue in the same Sentiments upon the Donation to the Navy, which we see is again taken up in the Instructions to the Resident at the Durbur.

30. We repeat, that we have lost all Confidence in those Servants, which nothing can restore but a strict Obedience to our Orders, and a more scrupulous Attention to the Company's true Interest; in the mean Time, and until their Conduct shall have reinfatred them in our good Opinion, we must and do rely solely on our President Lord Clive, and the Select Committee, whom we do hereby invest with all requisite Powers for securing to the Company all Sums paid on Account of Restitution, till our Orders are known. We further expect that they shall give us a clear Investigation of the Motives that influenced the Governor and Council to engage in a Treaty with the King, so repugnant to our true Interest—That they shall examine into the Reasons of the *Burdwan* Lands being let so low as Thirty-two Lacks, when, by the Accounts transmitted to us, the Collections exceeded Fifty Lacks.—We also rely on the Committee to put a Stop to the shameful Demand made on the Nabob for the Navy, and supported by the Council, to their great Dishonour. And if any further corrupt or oppressive Practices come to their Knowledge, that they suspend those who shall appear guilty of them, and give us the fullest Information thereof. And lastly, we cannot avoid taking Notice, that the late President and Council neither acknowledged the Receipt of the Covenants, relative to the receiving Presents from the Country Government, nor have they taken the least Notice of them. We hope there is no further Meaning in this Neglect, than the deferring it till Lord Clive's Arrival; yet, when we consider the total Disregard of our most solemn Orders on the most important Subjects, we know not where their Disobedience will stop.

31. We have received Two Letters from Mr. *Spencer*, the first dated the 5th of February 1765, the last the 14th March, Copies of which we inclose for your Information; as they both urge his own Merit in so strong a Manner, we find ourselves obliged to give our Sentiments on his Conduct in *Bengal*.

32. He came down to that Settlement with the general good Opinion of the World, and with our Approbation of his Conduct during his Services at *Bombay*, with this peculiar Advantage, that he was free from all the Embarrassments and the Party Spirit that prevailed in *Bengal*, and had the plain Path of the Company's Interest before him.—We shall therefore recapitulate the Censure we have past on that Part of the Administration of our Affairs in which he was concerned, and which we take for granted he approved, as no Dissent is entered by him.

33. First, The very same Letter that carried his Appointment to the Government, carried our most positive Orders, to put a total and effectual Stop to the Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, which we expressed to be the Source of the War, and incompatible with the Peace of the Country, and the Interest of the Company. Yet in the Consultation, 17th October, wherein that Order is taken into Consideration, he signs a Resolution to carry on the Trade of Salt and Beetle Nut,

Nut, paying the Nabob on Sale 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. in direct Breach of our Orders; and in the Treaty with the new Nabob, he stipulates for that Right by an express Article of the Treaty.

34. Although the Treaty with *Meer Jaffer Ally Cawn* was entered into before *Mr. Spencer's* Arrival, yet he gave his Sanction to every Part of it, particularly that which stipulated Restitution for Losses, which we make no Doubt he knew to be mostly sustained in an illicit Trade; and, preferring the Interest of the Servants to the Honour of the Company, countenanced the aggravating Circumstances which accompanied that shameful Prostitution of our Authority, in raising the Demand, till, by flinging in outstanding Debts, it was carried to the exorbitant Sum of Fifty-three Lacks; and *Mr. Spencer*, though no Way interested therein, joined in the ungenerous Proceedings, by which *Meer Jaffer's* Consent was extorted for the Payment of these Demands; and in the Treaty with the new Nabob makes it an Act of his own, by carefully stipulating for it therein; and to our great Astonishment we see his Name to Consultation, 15th November 1764, wherein he engages the Authority of the Company to obtain the Sum of Twelve Lacks and an Half for the Navy, though, as far as appears to us, the demanding this Sum was a private Act of his Predecessor, unknown to him, but so strongly adopted, that we see he never loses Sight of it, but makes the Recovery of it Part of the Instructions to the Resident at the Durbar, on the Accession of the new Subah.

35. In the Administration of our Revenues, he has so overlooked the Accounts of the Province of *Burdwan*, that though it appears in them the Rajah collects Fifty-one Lacks of Rupees, yet he has approved the Agreement with the Rajah for Thirty-two Lacks, which is even lower than the preceding Year; nor has he taken any Notice of the Sum of Eighty thousand Rupees, applied to the Use of our Servants, under the Head of Charges of Residency.

36. In this Letter of the 14th March, he urges the general flourishing State of the Company's Affairs as a Matter of Merit to himself; in which we totally differ from him, as he will learn from our Sentiments in our Letter of the 24th December, and the present; of which you will transmit him Copies, as far as relates to the Administration of our Affairs, during his being of our Council in *Bengal*.

37. In the Packet, by the *Bute*, you transmitted to us, a Copy of the Treaty with the Nabob *Najim-o-Dowla*, which is attested by your Secretary, *Mr. Majendie*, to be a true Copy; whereas it has neither Date, or the Names of our Council who signed the Treaty, nor the Nabob's Name, to it, which might have been very well added, as it appears by your Consultations of the 6th March last, that you then received it properly executed by the Nabob. You are to inform *Mr. Majendie* of his Inattention, and let him know he must be more careful for the future.

## N<sup>o</sup> 102.

Letter from Lord Clive, General Carnac, and Mr. Sykes, to the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, dated 30 April 1766.

To *William Brightwell Sumner*, Esquire, and the Gentlemen of the Council at *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,  
YESTERDAY we held the Puneah, agreeably to the Custom of the Country, and to those Ideas, which we entertain of the Company's Honour and Interest. His Excellency the Nabob sat in Quality of Nazim, and the Right honourable the President took his Place, as Collector of the Revenues for his Majesty.

We thought it by no Means advisable to deviate, upon slight Occasions, from the established Forms and Customs of this Anniversary; and therefore accepted, for ourselves, and for you, the usual Present of a Dress and Elephant to each, which shall be forwarded by the first Opportunity. This Expence hath formerly been charged to the Government; it must therefore, now, of Course, be brought to the Company's Account; but as the Amount is inconsiderable, it was scarce worth while to introduce any Innovation that might tend to lessen their Dignity in the Eyes of the People.

The Zemindars, and other Public Officers, have consented to pay to the Amount of Rupees 5,20,000, as First Fruits of the ensuing Collections; of this Sum, Four Lacks are now already received, and the Remainder, we have Reason to expect will be paid, in a few Days, into the Treasury.

All possible Dispatch will be used in closing the Balances of the present Year, so as to complete, for the Province of *Bengal*, a Collection of 140 Lacks:—A Revenue that must far exceed Expectation, when it is

considered that Six Months were elapsed before we took Charge of the Collections, and that the more weighty and considerable Balances were actually incurred before we received the Investiture of the Dewanny.

We propose transmitting to your Board, an explicit Account of the Particulars of the present Collection, and also of the Statement for the ensuing Year, as soon as the same can be prepared, and the whole Business duly completed; and we flatter ourselves that nothing hath been done, nothing undone, which had not the Public Interest for its immediate Object, and which, for that Reason, will not meet with your Approbation.

As to the Increase of the Revenue by the new Statement, although it cannot yet be ascertained, yet there is great Reason to believe it will not fall short of Ten Lacks of Rupees; which additional Sum may be collected without Rigour or Oppression.

Before we conclude, we beg Leave to mention, that *Mr. Campbell* attended here, by our Direction, as Mint Master, to explain and Conduct a Scheme proposed by the Select Committee, for establishing a Gold Currency, the Result of which we hope to transmit in a few Days to the Board.

We are, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
humble Servants,

*Mostajil*,  
30th April 1766.

*Clive*,  
*John Carnac*,  
*Fra. Sykes*.

N<sup>o</sup> 103.Extract from the Trial of *Ramchurn*, 1761.

**P**ARTICULARS of the Sums on which *Rey-dulab* received his Commission. An Account of Money, agreeable to the Receipts of *Rajah Dolevaram*.

## In Three Payments.

To the Company	—	—	46,83,595	11	7
Army and Navy	—	—	23,41,797	8	3
Inhabitants	—	—	36,06,368	—	6

106,31,761 4 4

Deduct Army and Navy, on which no Commission was drawn	—	—	23,41,797	8	3
---	---	---	-----------	---	---

82,89,963 12 1

5

4,14,498 1 5

Committee 1,150,000 — 5 per Cent.	57,500	—	—	—	—
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A Present from Col. <i>Clive</i> , being 5 per	—	—	—	—	—
--	---	---	---	---	---

Cent. upon 25 Lacks	—	—	1,25,000	—	—
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5,96,998 — —

## Received Account Commission; viz.

5 Sun Siccas	—	—	7400
<i>Muxadavad</i> Sonauts	—	—	94991
<i>Dacca</i> Sonauts	—	—	10513
<i>Patna</i> Sonauts	—	—	148770
<i>Atter</i> Good	—	—	41330
<i>Patna</i> Lefts Rupees	—	—	54903
<i>Arcott</i> Lefts	—	—	85,144½
Sonauts of Sorts Lefts	—	—	153178

Rupees 596,229½

*N. B.* The above Sums are given to *Rajah Dolevaram* by *Caja Petruje*, the Bags containing, some 1000, and some Two Thousand; the said Bags were sealed with a Mohur of *Nabob Surous Dowlah*; and regularly the above Sums were received by *Dolevaram*; but those Bags that were left to the Amount of 767½ Rupees, which was likewise received by him.

F O U R T H  
R E P O R T  
F R O M T H E  
C O M M I T T E E  
A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O  
T H E N A T U R E, S T A T E, A N D C O N D I T I O N,  
O F T H E  
*E A S T I N D I A* C O M P A N Y,  
A N D O F T H E  
*B R I T I S H* A F F A I R S I N T H E *E A S T I N D I E S*.

Reported on the Twenty-first of *April* 1773.

Together with an APPENDIX, referred to in the said Report.



F O U R T H

# R E P O R T

F R O M T H E

## C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O

### T H E N A T U R E , S T A T E , A N D C O N D I T I O N ,

O F T H E

### E A S T I N D I A C O M P A N Y ;

A N D O F T H E

### B R I T I S H A F F A I R S I N T H E E A S T I N D I E S .

*The 21st of April 1773.*

**N**OT having been able, for Want of Time, before the Receipt, to insert in their last Report the Progress they had made in their Enquiries respecting the Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, they have been since employed in arranging the several Matters they had collected upon that Head, in the Manner that appeared to them most conducive to the Information of the House.

And Your Committee finding, That the House is apprised (by the Fourth Report of the Committee of Secrecy, Vol. IV p. 106) of the general State of Duties upon Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, according to the Evidence of *Mahomed Raza Cawn*, and other Circumstances therein recited, they have only to add upon that Subject, That they find an Alteration was attempted to be made upon the ancient Establishment of Duties, by the Regulations which were settled between *Cassim Ally Cawn* and *Mr Vansittart*, *of Mongberr*; whereby it was stipulated, that the Company's Servants should, in Time to come, pay Nine per Cent. on the Rowanna Price of Salt. But this Treaty having been rejected by the Council, as having been concluded without sufficient Authority on the Part of *Mr Vansittart*, and also as subjecting the *English* and their Servants, upon all Disputes, to the Jurisdiction of the Nabob's Officers, the old Regulations as to Duties were continued, and the *English*, by Treaty made with *Mir Jaffer*, were placed upon a Footing with the most favoured among the Natives, viz to pay the Duties of 2½ per Cent on Salt.

And Your Committee also observed, from the Appendix in the above-mentioned Report of the Committee of Secrecy, N<sup>o</sup> 44, That the House is in Possession of the 12th Paragraph of General Letter from the Court of Directors to the Governor and Council of Bengal, dated

the 8th of February 1764, wherein the Court of Directors order, "That from the Receipt of the said Letter a final and effectual End be forthwith put to the Island Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and in all other Articles whatsoever produced and consumed in the Country, and that all *Europeans* and other Agents or Gomastahs, who have been concerned in such Trade, be immediately ordered down to *Calcutta*, and not suffered to return or be replaced as such by any other Person," and the above is the first express Order which Your Committee have discovered upon the Records of the Company against this Trade; though Your Committee find, from the Evidence of *Mr Batson*, that the *English* began to trade in Salt about the End of the Year 1757, and that it soon became general.

And it also appears by the Evidence of *Mr Mac Gwire*, and by a Letter from Governor *Vansittart* to *Mr Mac Gwire* of 30th December 1761, printed in the Appendix to the former Report, N<sup>o</sup> 9, That they had large Concerns in Salt on their joint Account, which was sold at *Panna* in the Year 1761.

Your Committee further find, That the Court of Directors, in their General Letter of the 22d of February 1764, Paragraph 35, a Copy of which is herewith annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 1, gave a general and positive Order against every Kind of Monopoly in Trade.

And Your Committee think proper to remark, That the Prohibition of the Trade of the Company's Servants in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, was recommended to the Court of Directors, in a Letter from Lord *Clerk*, dated 27th April 1764, and entered on the Proceedings of the General Court, 2d May 1764, Extract of which is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 2

The next Circumstance Your Committee think necessary to lay before the House, is, the Resolution of the General Court of the 18th of May 1764; and the Paragraph of the General Letter of the 1st of June 1764, wrote in Pursuance of that Resolution; and Your Committee find them conceived in the following Terms:

#### RESOLUTION.

"It is recommended to the Court of Directors to reconsider the Orders sent to *Bengal*, relative to the Trade of the Company's Servants in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco; and that they do give such Directions for regulating the same, agreeable to the Interests of the Company and the Subah, as to them may appear most prudent, either by settling there at Home the Restrictions under which this Trade ought to be carried on, or by referring it to the Governor and Council of *Fort William*, to regulate this important Point in such a Manner as may prevent all future Disputes betwixt the Subah and the Company."

The 57th Paragraph of the General Letter, dated 1st June 1764 (wrote in Pursuance of the above Resolution.)

"You are hereby ordered and directed (*viz.* the Governor and Council) to consult with the Nabob as to the Manner of carrying on the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and other Articles produced and consumed in the Country, which may be most conducive to his Satisfaction and Advantage, the Interest of the Company, and likewise of the Company's Servants."

N. B. The House is in Possession of the other Paragraphs of the said Letter, relative to the Inland Trade, in the above-mentioned Appendix of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, N<sup>o</sup> 24.

Having thus stated the Orders of the Court of Directors, Your Committee think proper to observe, That the Salt Society, which afterwards took Place, appears to have been originally proposed at Sea by Lord Clive, during his Passage to *India*; and the Evidence upon which Your Committee ground this Fact is in a Letter from Lord Clive to the Court of Directors, dated 1st of February 1766; Extract of which is in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 3.

And it appears to Your Committee, from the Evidence of several Witnesses here following, That in the Beginning of June, being a few Days after the Arrival of Mr. *Vereft* from *Chittagong*, and about the Time of the Third Meeting of the Select Committee, a private Partnership was formed, in the Names of Lord Clive, Mr. *Sumner*, Mr. *Vereft*, and Mr. *Sykes*, for purchasing large Quantities of Salt, then in the Hands of private Merchants. Your Committee are prevented stating the Extent of this Transaction so fully as they might otherwise have done, by Mr. *Vereft* declining to answer a Question put to him upon that Subject; because, as he alleged, the Court of Directors had threatened him with a Prosecution upon Salt Concerns; but Your Committee having examined Mr. *Vereft* to such other Circumstances as he thought he could answer without Prejudice to himself; he informed Your Committee, that on his Return from *Chittagong* to *Calcutta*, on the 29th of May 1766, finding there was a Necessity for his giving up his Chiefship, and residing at *Calcutta*, he made some Purchases of Salt of the Produce of some former Years from several European Gentlemen, and some few *Armenian* and Black Merchants: That at the Time he was making these Purchases on his own Account, Lord Clive mentioned to him a Desire of forming some Provision for the Gentlemen he had brought out with him, and

asked the Witness's Opinion in what Manner it could be done; that he told his Lordship he knew of no Advantage but what resulted from Trade; that he mentioned the Purchases he had made, adding he could extend them, if his Lordship thought proper; that the Purchases were accordingly extended, with his Lordship's Assent, Mr. *Sumner* and Mr. *Sykes* taking a Part of the Concern; that this Partnership was formed about the Beginning of June following, in the Names of Lord Clive, Messieurs *Sumner*, *Sykes*, and *Vereft*, each One Quarter Part; and all the Purchases on Account of the Partnership were made in the Month of June; and that Lord Clive advanced his Proportion, but was not concerned on his own Account; that the Witness always considered the Concern to be merely on the Account of the Three Gentlemen his Lordship brought out with him; that the Witness chose it should stand in his Lordship's Name, preferring to have the Accounts in the Name of One Person, rather than Three or Four: And being asked, Whether those Gentlemen received the Advantage of it? he said, He himself saw the Advantages divided amongst them; that he believes Salt purchased before the Establishment of the Society of Trade, was not liable to any Duty, except the 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. to the Country Government, and that it paid none to the Company; that he has no Doubt, but the Nabob received his Duties on the Whole of the said Partnership Salt; that the greatest Quantity was purchased of Messrs. *Marriott*, *Gallopine*, Governor *Spencer*, Messrs. *Playdell*, the Attornies of Mr. *Hastings*, Mr. *John Johnson*, and Mr. *Amyatt*; that the largest Quantity was purchased of Mr. *Johnson*.—Being asked, With whom Mr. *Johnson* made the Bargain for the Salt he sold on this Occasion? he said, That Mr. *Johnson* sold it to the Witness's Banyan, who offered the Witness Mr. *Vereft*, as a Security for the Payment of the Money; that he supposed Mr. *Johnson* was perfectly satisfied with his Bargain, for he gave a Receipt in full for Principal and Interest, and that he never complained of having been oppressed in any Degree upon that Occasion; that he believes Mr. *Johnson*'s Salt Balances at *Burdwan* was settled entirely to his Satisfaction; that Mr. *Johnson*, and all other Persons concerned in the Salt Trade, were at Liberty to sell their Salt to whom they pleased; that there never was any Restraint, nor did he ever hear the least Murmur about any; that notwithstanding the Infirmary of the Society of Trade, every Individual was allowed to dispose of the Salt on Hand to whom he pleased; that the Society had no Power to prevent it, nor did they ever attempt it; that if those Persons who sold their Salt at that Time had kept it longer, the Profits to them would have been the same as they were to the Partnership.—Being asked, Whether any Orders of the Court of Directors were in Force at the Time of forming the above Partnership, forbidding their Servants to trade in Salt? he said, That, to the best of his Remembrance, there were, but that he considered them as made with a View to the future, and not extending to the Salt already made: And being asked, Whether it was known at the Time, to the different Partners, that the Monopoly in the Salt Trade, which was afterwards established, would be formed? he answered, That he believed not, for he was far from considering it as a Thing determined: And being further asked, If they had had any Conversation on the Subject, or if the Matter had been in Contemplation? he said, He could not recollect; that there might have been some cursory Remarks made relative to that Subject, but it never biased him in the Purchases he made: And being asked, Whether he thought the Partnership was a Breach of the Orders of the 8th of February and the 1st of June 1764, which were read to him? he said, That he did not, because he considered the Orders of the Company to allude only to new Engagements for Salt



Salt to be made, and not to affect the Property of Individuals, in respect to any Salt they might have on their Hands; that he did not consider the Servants to be prohibited from extending their Purchases to any Amount for Salt already manufactured: And being further asked, Whether he knew of any Orders of the Company which made a Distinction between Salt already manufactured, or to be afterwards manufactured? he answered, No.—Being asked, Whether Mr. *Tom Lewis* was one of the Agents for the Partnership? he said, No; that he transacted some Business for Mr. *Sykes* in the Salt Concerns, and that he (Mr. *Verelst*) acknowledged the Book published in his Name, in the Year 1772, to be his Writing; and that it contains a full Account of the Affairs relating to Mr. *Lewis*.

Mr. *Sumner* being examined upon the Subject of the abovementioned Partnership, informed Your Committee, That, some Time in the Month of *June* 1765, Mr. *Verelst* mentioned to him his having made some Purchases of Old Salt upon his own Account, and at the same Time, proposed his taking a Share therein, together with Lord *Clive* and Mr. *Sykes*; which the Witnesses agreed to; that each of them had a Quarter Part, and that Mr. *Verelst* undertook the Management of the Concern, and the Keeping of the Accounts; that the Witnesses sold his Quarter to Mr. *Verelst*, about the Middle of *September*, for a certain Profit; that he had at this Time advanced his whole Share of the Money required for the Purchase, amounting to £. 12,500; that the Amount of the Agreement was to be paid him on the 1st of *April*, that the Net Amount of the Profits, deducting for Deficiencies in Contract, and calculating Interest of Money, at the Rate of 10 per Cent. (which is the common Interest of the Country) from the Time he advanced it, amounted to £. 4485, which is precisely 36 per Cent. Net Profit, upon the £. 12,500, for 9 Months; that Mr. *Verelst* having had the Charge of the Concern and keeping the Accounts, and the Witnesses having sold his Share to him, he can give no particular Account as to the precise Quantity purchased, or the ultimate Disposition thereof; but that he judged the Quantity of Salt purchased was about 460,000 Maunds.—Being asked, What Proportion he thought this bore to the ready-made Salt in the Country? he said, He could only judge from the Quantity produced the Two following Years, which, to the best of his Recollection, was 2,800,000 Maunds per Annum, on an Average.—Being asked, Whether a Profit of 36 per Cent. in the Space of 9 Months (after deducting 10 per Cent. on the Money advanced) was an unusual or extraordinary Profit upon that Trade in the Hands of an European? he said, That upon any other Article he should have considered it as an high Profit, but upon the Article of Salt by no Means so: And being asked, Whether this Concern in Salt was more advantageous than the Concern held under the Society of Trade? he said, The ultimate Conclusion of the Society's Concern he was ignorant of; but with respect to the Share he held himself, he sold his Share in the First Year's Trade of the Society, after holding it about 14 Months, for a Profit of 54 ½ per Cent. exclusive of Interest upon a Capital of £. 20,000: That his Second Year's Concern sold for a Profit of £. 41 per Cent. also, exclusive of Interest upon a Capital of £. 14,500. The First Year's Concern was sold the 28th of *October* 1766, to *Huybrauval* and Co. Black Merchants, they running all Risks of Loss and bad Debts; and the Second Concern was sold to Mr. *Chervier*, the 8th of *November* 1766, Two Months after the Establishment of the Second Year, he likewise running all Risks: And being further asked, Whether the Proprietors, upon advancing their respective Shares, received Interest upon their Monies, besides their Profits in the Trade? he answered, Yes.—Being asked, Whether, in his Apprehension, the Partnership was

contrary to the Company's Orders? he said, He did not consider it so; if he had, he should not have entered into it; that he considered the Company's Orders of the 8th *February* and 1st *June* 1764, as confined to new Contracts and Engagements, and no Way relating to the Old Salt then upon Hand, which every Person was at Liberty to dispose of as he thought proper: And being asked, Whether, at the Time of the Commencement of the Partnership, it was determined to lay a Duty of 35 per Cent. on future Salt; and whether any other Circumstance, that must necessarily raise the Price of Salt, was in Contemplation at that Time? he said, That no certain Duty was at that Time determined, nor was it determined whether the Nabob or Company were to Share in the Salt Trade as Proprietors, or to receive a certain fixed Duty; that the Company had committed the Regulations to the Select Committee, in a Letter, under Date the 1st *June* 1764, which Letter arrived in *Bengal* on the 24th *January* 1765, and lay open to the whole Settlement; that from that Letter it appeared that the Company expected to be considered in the Advantages of the Salt Trade, and that the Nabob was to be fully satisfied on his Part; that every Body must have known that these Two Objects could not have been accomplished but by an Advance of Duty, which must be considerably more than the then established Rate of Duty, and consequently, that the Price of Salt must considerably rise in *Calcutta*.—Being asked, Whether he imagined the Partnership Salt was disposed of, and consumed, before the Salt of the Society could come into Circulation? he said, He apprehended it might have been disposed of, but could not say whether it was or not: And being asked, Whether Lord *Clive* entered into this Concern on his own Account, or on Account of the Three Gentlemen mentioned by Mr. *Verelst*? he said, That Lord *Clive*'s Name stood in the Partnership; but that the Witnesses always understood it was upon the Account of those Three Gentlemen, and that the Profits were to be divided amongst them.

Your Committee then examined *Francis Sykes*, Esquire, a Member of the House; who being asked, Whether he remembered any Partnership between himself, Lord *Clive*, Mr. *Sumner*, and Mr. *Verelst*? he said, That a Quantity of Salt was purchased by them, the Time he could not recollect, but he believed it might be about Two Months after their Arrival; that the said Salt was bought of many Black People, and many English Gentlemen; Mr. *John Johnson*, Mr. *Hastings*'s Attornies, and others; that they bought it on their own private Accounts, and that it was Salt manufactured the Year before their Arrival.—Being asked, Why they dealt themselves in Salt, before they had proceeded to regulate the Trade? he said, He did not know that they did, previous to their entering on the Subject, or to the Intention being publicly known; that this Partnership Salt was not sold to the Society, but to the Country People; that the Gentlemen concerned were drawn upon for Money agreeably to their Shares; that the Witnesses's Proportion was about a Lack of Rupees; that the Advantages of the said Partnership, to those who continued their Concern, reckoning Loss of Interest and Balances, might be 30 per Cent.; he said, That he did not recollect who made the Proposal to Lord *Clive* relating to this Partnership, but that his Lordship was not concerned in it from the Beginning; that it was begun by Mr. *Verelst*, that the Witnesses afterwards accepted a Concern; and that some Time after Lord *Clive* and Mr. *Sumner* did the same: And being asked, Whether Lord *Clive* entered into this Partnership upon his own Account, or for the Benefit of other Persons? he said, He remembered very well, that at the Time Lord *Clive* took the Concern, he declared he would not benefit himself Six Pence by it; that he intended the Profits which might arise from it for

for Mr. *Stracey*, Mr. *Mahelnyne*, and Mr. *Ingham* the Surgeon, the Three Gentlemen who had accompanied him to India.

And Your Committee observing, That the first Orders of the Select Committee at Bengal, for the Recall of the free Merchants, as stated in their former Report, happened about Three Weeks before the Time when the Partnership was formed; they examined *Francis Sykes*, Esquire, to that Point; who being asked, What Orders of the Governor and Council, for recalling free Merchants residing up the Country, were alluded to in the Minute of the Select Committee of the 11th May 1765 (which Minute was read, and is in the Appendix of the former Report of Your Committee, N<sup>o</sup> 84.)? he said, He did not recollect, but did imagine there were Grounds for Orders of that Kind: And being further asked, If there were any Complaints from free Merchants, made to the Select Committee? he said, There was a general Complaint of the Misconduct of free Merchants residing in the interior Part of the Country, with respect to the Country Government; but at this Distance of Time he could not point out any One: And being asked, Whether he thought a Month a sufficient Time for any Man up the Country to adjust his Affairs for his Departure? he answered, No; but he understood a much longer Time was allowed to the free Merchants; that the Time limited first by the Select Committee, for the Recall of the free Merchants, extended to all of them, except upon Representation of their particular Situation, that their Affairs could not be settled within the Time specified; in which Cases, upon their Representations, some Deviations were permitted.

And Your Committee thinking this a proper Occasion to lay before the House the other Circumstances alluded to in their former Report, relative to the Recall of free Merchants, they have inserted in their Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 4 to 31, several Extracts from the Company's Records, beginning the 22d February 1763; which is the earliest Period Your Committee have thought it necessary to refer to, in order to shew the different Representations that were made, and the different Regulations and Orders that ensued, upon this Subject, and likewise the Remission of such Orders and Regulations in particular Instances.

And Your Committee find, That the Letter of the 8th of February 1764, referred to in a former Part of this Report, arrived in Bengal the 13th of July 1764; that Consultations were had on the said Letter, on the 21st of the said Month; and further, that the Governor and Council, on the 17th of October following, in Consequence of the Orders contained in the said Letter, and likewise in Consequence of Representations from the Nabob, resolved, that the Inland Trade should in general be prohibited, with such Exceptions and Qualifications as will appear in an Extract from the Consultations in the Secret Department of that Date, and annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 32.

And Your Committee find, That the General Letter from the Court of Directors, of the 1st of June 1764, arrived in Bengal on the 24th of January 1765; and that on the 25th the Governor and Council agreed to defer proceeding upon the Orders therein contained, relating to the Inland Trade, as Lord *Clive*, and the other Gentlemen, might be soon expected to arrive.

And it appears to Your Committee, That on the 10th of August 1765, Mr. *Sumner* and Mr. *Verelst*, constituting a Select Committee, took into Consideration the Subject of the Inland Trade, in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and resolved on a Plan for conducting the same; and for the full Information of the House upon that Plan, Your Committee have inserted in their Appendix the necessary Extracts from the Proceedings of the Select Committee of that Date, N<sup>o</sup> 33.

And Your Committee find, by an Extract from the

Consultation herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 34, That, on the 14th of August, Mr. *Sumner*, the presiding Member, laid before the Council the above-mentioned Plan, as a Ground Work for carrying on the Trade in future: That a Committee of Trade, consisting of Messrs. *Sumner*, *Verelst*, *Leycester*, and *Gray*, were then appointed for conducting the said Plan; and that the Chiefs of the several subordinate Factories were ordered to pay due Regard to such Instructions as they might receive, from Time to Time, from the said Committee; and Extracts of the Circular Letter sent to the subordinate Factories are inserted in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 35.

And Your Committee further find, from the Consultation of the 18th of September 1765, That a Letter from the Committee of Trade, dated 11th September, was laid before the Council; requesting that a Deed might be granted from Lord *Clive* and the Council to the said Committee of Trade, for securing to the Society the free and sole Purchase of the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, from the 1st of September 1765 to the 31st of August 1766; and it appears to Your Committee, that such a Deed was afterwards executed, the particular Evidence respecting which is inserted in the subsequent Part of this Report.

And Your Committee find, That on the 18th of September 1765, the Select Committee resumed the Consideration of the Plan for carrying on the Inland Trade, which they completed on that Day; that the said Proceedings were laid before the Council, on the 25th of September, and transmitted to the Committee of Trade, with Instructions to proceed agreeably thereto; and a Copy of the Proceedings of the Select Committee of the 18th of September, together with an Extract from the Consultation of the 25th of September, are inserted in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 36 and 37.

And it appears, That the Select Committee, in the 32d and 33d Paragraphs of their Letter of the 30th September 1765; and Lord *Clive*, in the 17th and 18th Paragraphs of his Letter of the same Date (Copies of which Letters are in the Appendix of Your Committee's former Report) gave to the Company a general Information of their Proceedings relative to this Plan, and their Reasons for instituting the same.

And Your Committee find, That in Consequence of an Application from the Committee of Trade, Copy of which is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 38, the Select Committee, on the 29th of October 1765, consented to the Appointment of European Agents to conduct the Business of the Society in different Parts of the Country; and Copies of their Proceedings of that Date, and their Letter to the Committee of Trade, of the 1st of November, are annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 39 and 40.

And it appears, by a Letter from the Committee of Trade to the Select Committee, dated 1st of November 1765, Copy whereof is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 41, That 9 Persons were then appointed Agents to the Society; and that, on the 5th of November, the Select Committee, in their Answer to the Committee of Trade, Copy whereof is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 42, made several Restrictions respecting the said Agents.

And it appears, by a Letter from the Committee of Trade to the Select Committee, dated the 8th of January 1766, that they proposed the Agents of the Society should be permitted, notwithstanding the original Regulations before referred to in the Appendix, under which they were employed, to dispose of the Salt then on Hand belonging to private Traders; to which the Select Committee on the 9th of January consented; and Copies of the said Letter of the Proceedings of the Select Committee thereupon, and their Answer thereto, are annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 43, 44, and 45.—And it appears, by the Letter of the Select Committee of the 31st of January 1766, Paragraphs 8, 9, 10, and 11, Copy of which Letter is annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 46, that they informed the Court of Directors of the Deviation they had made from their general Order for recalling free Merchants.

And Your Committee have annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 47, 48, 49 and 50, Extracts of such Letters from the Court of Directors, upon the Subject of the Inland Trade, as were received in Bengal after the General Letter of the 1st June 1764, and before the Establishment of the Second Plan for conducting the Salt Trade; which was proposed by Lord Clive to the Select Committee on the 2d September 1766.

Your Committee do not find any further remarkable Transactions respecting this Trade, which are not already before the House, till the 15th of August 1766, when certain Merchants were brought before the Select Committee, and required to refund the surplus Profit upon their Sales, being 41,535 Rupees, as an Excess of the Price they took beyond what the Select Committee thought they had a Right to take; Copies of the Proceedings of the Select Committee, of that Date are annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 51.

And the Plan which was proposed by Lord Clive, for carrying on the Salt Society a Second Year, notwithstanding the Orders from the Court of Directors of the 10th February 1766, together with his Lordship's Reasons for such Proposal, are entered in the Select Committee Proceedings of the 3d of September 1766, and Copy thereof is annexed in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 52.

And it appears by the Consultations of the 8th of September, Extract of which is annexed in Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 53, That the abovementioned Proceedings were laid before the Council, the new Regulations approved, and a Committee of Trade were appointed to carry the Plan of the Salt Trade into Execution.

And Your Committee find, That Lord Clive, in the 1st and 2d Paragraphs of his Letter to the Court of Directors, dated 6th September 1766, and the Select Committee, in the 25th Paragraph of their Letter of the 8th of the same Month, and also in the 4th and 5th Paragraphs of the Letter of the 5th of December 1766; Copies of which are annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 54, 55 and 56, communicated to the Court of Directors the Alterations which they had made in the Plan for carrying on the Salt Trade, together with their Arguments on the Subject.

And Your Committee find, That the Court of Directors, by their Letter to the Select Committee, dated 17th of May 1766, Paragraphs 4 and 31 to 39 inclusive, in Answer to the Bengal Dispatch of 30th of September 1765, and which arrived at Bengal the 8th of December 1766, disapproved of the Plan which had been transmitted in the said Letter of the 30th of September 1765, for trading in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, and accordingly confirmed their former Orders for its entire Abolition; declaring their Opinion, that all who had been concerned in this Trade were guilty of a Breach of Covenants; and in their Letter to Lord Clive of the same Date, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9 and 11, they repeat the like Prohibition.—And Your Committee have added to their Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 57, Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee at Bengal, dated the 16th January 1767, relative to the Abolition of the Salt Trade—and it appears, that on the same Day the Select Committee resolved, that the Society of Trade should be abolished, and the Inland Trade totally relinquished on the 1st Day of September following; and it further appears, that in their Letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 24th of January 1767, Extract of which is in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 58, sent by the *Britannia*, in which Ship Lord Clive embarked for Europe, they informed them of the abovementioned Resolution.

And it further appears, That on the 15th of February 1767, the Select Committee laid before the Council their Resolution for abolishing the Society of Trade, and that the Council then ordered Publication to be made of the same.

But Your Committee think proper to state, that the Society was not in Fact dissolved till the 14th of September 1767.

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September 1768, as will appear by the Evidence of Dr. *Smellie* in the subsequent Part of this Report, and likewise by a public Advertisement, proved to have been compared with the Original by Mr. *Whitall*.

Your Committee also find, That Lord Clive, after his Arrival in England, in a Letter, dated the 28th of August 1767, used many Arguments with the Court of Directors, to induce them to continue the Benefit of the Salt Trade to their Servants, as will more fully appear by the Letter in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 59.

And Your Committee further find, That Lord Clive, in another Letter, dated Bath, the 14th November 1767, in the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 60, remonstrated with the Court of Directors against the opening of the Salt Trade, and taking only a Duty of 10 Rupees per Hundred Maunds: And Your Committee find, That the Court of Directors, in their General Letter to Bengal, dated the 20th of November 1767, Paragraphs 88 to 118, Copies whereof are hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 61, ordered that the Duty on Salt should be so fixed as to produce a Revenue of £. 100,000 at least, and not to exceed £. 120,000; and in Consideration of having confined the Trade of their Servants to Articles of Import and Export, they ordered a Commission of 2½ per Cent. of the nett Territorial Revenues to be distributed among their principal Servants, in the Proportions therein named.

And Your Committee find, That after all the abovementioned Prohibitions of the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, the Court of Directors, on the 15th of September 1769, as appears by the 27th Paragraph of the Instructions to the Supervisors, Copy of which is hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 62, laid open the said Trade to all Persons, as well Europeans as Natives: But Your Committee do not find, when the said Court of Directors laid the Inland Trade open to such of their Servants as were not prohibited from trading by the general subsidizing Regulations, that they gave any Directions for withholding the Proportion of the 2½ per Cent. on the Territorial Revenues allowed to such Servants, notwithstanding it has been originally given to them in Consideration of their being confined to Imports and Exports.

In order to elucidate these Transactions, Your Committee examined several Witnesses; and that they might not break the periodical Succession of Facts, as contained in the Company's Records recited above, they have reserved the Evidence to lay before the House together: And first,

Mr. *Sumner* was called upon to state to Your Committee the Grounds upon which the Society of Trade was established; and it appearing, by Mr. *Sumner's* Answer, that he had very maturely considered this Subject, and that he had thought proper to enter into a full Detail thereupon, Your Committee think it advisable to give his Evidence *verbatim*, so far as it relates to that Question.

The Subject on which I am now to reply, of all others, opens the widest Field for Misrepresentation, because it was the least understood by the Court of Directors, and has proved the severest Check to the interested Views of Individuals: The joint Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, having been held forth to the World in the odious Light of an oppressive Monopoly, it has wrought upon the Feelings of a generous People as a most intolerable Grievance; supported however by a Consciousness that the Select Committee at Bengal perfectly understood, and closely pursued, the public Good, when they instituted the Society; I shall, without Fear of Reproach, as one of the Members of that Committee, enter into an Explanation of the Motives which governed their Conduct: It will be necessary to recall your Ideas to the State of the Inland Trade in former Times; the Article of Salt in particular, prior to 1756, was farmed at from 25 to 35,000 *per Annum*; the Revolution in 1756 extended the Views of the Company's Servants

to Advantages beyond what they had hitherto derived from a Trade confined to Imports and Exports, and from that Period they began to participate in the Benefit of an Inland Commerce; and some even, in those early Days of our Influence, entertained Hopes of a Right, founded upon our Phirmaunds, to an Exemption of Duties upon Salt: It was not, however, till after *Meer Cossim's* Accession, in 1760, that such a Right was publicly avowed; then it was that the Company acquired Possession of *Rurdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong*, on which, and the Company's *Calcutta* Lands, near Two Thirds of the whole Quantities of Salt for the Consumption of *Bengal* is manufactured: By possessing these Countries the *English* considered themselves now the Proprietors, and became the principal original Dealers in that Article; some were content with the Profit arising from the Sale in *Calcutta*, whilst others launched out farther to seek the Profits through the Country: The Magnitude of this Branch of Trade, and the Manner in which it was now carried on, became the Subject of Contest and Dispute between *Meer Cossim* and our Government, the Particulars of which having been laid before this Committee, not to trespass on their Time, I beg Leave to refer to. On *Meer Jaffer's* Reinstatement to the Government in 1763, our Influence with respect to the Manufacture of Salt, by the Possession of these Countries, continued in full Force; and our uncontested Right to trade in Salt, on paying 2½ *per Cent.* Duty, was first established, the Natives being still subject to a Duty of 7 *per Cent.*: How far this Distinction was proper I can't pretend to determine; but certain it is, that the Proprietors of the *India* Stock, as well as the Directors, considered it as a Grant too partial in itself, and which they apprehended might involve us in fresh Disputes with the Country Government. Lord *Clive* being appointed in 1764 to take the Charge of the Company's Affairs in *Bengal*, the Inland Trade was then considered, by I believe almost every Proprietor, as One of the great Sources of Contention with the Country Government; it therefore became the Subject of serious Debate at repeated General Courts; by some it was recommended to restrain the Servants, as formerly, to the usual Articles of Import and Export; others foresaw the Difficulties of inducing Men, under the Circumstances of Power and Influence, quietly to relinquish Advantages they had long enjoyed, unless some adequate Equivalent was proposed; various Persons produced the following Motion: "That it be recommended

"to the Court of Directors to give Infrustration to the  
"Presidency of *Bengal*, to settle such Regulations in  
"carrying on the Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and To-  
"bacco, as shall prove most advantageous to this Com-  
"pany, without prejudicing the just Rights of the Na-  
"tives of the Provinces; and that such Regulations be  
"transmitted Home to the Court of Directors by the  
"first Opportunity, with every Information which can  
"enable them to determine on so important a Subject."

This Motion implied a total Suspension of at least Two Years of any Regulations; the forming a Plan in *Bengal*, which should be transmitted to *England* for the Approbation of the Court of Directors before it was adopted, would have left this important Branch of Trade open so long, and it was evident such Delay would necessarily hazard further Disputes with the Country Government, which it was the earnest Desire of the Court wholly to remove. The Motion was opposed, from a full Conviction of the bad Tendency of delaying the proposed Regulations, in which I joined with many intelligent Proprietors; it was in Consequence withdrawn, and the General Court came to the following Resolution; *viz.*

"That it be recommended to the Court of Direc-  
"tors, to re-consider the Orders sent to *Bengal* relative  
"to the Trade of the Company's Servants in Salt,  
"Beetle Nut, and Tobacco; and that they do give  
"such Directions for regulating the same, agreeably to

"the Interest of the Company and the Subah, as to  
"them may appear most prudent, either by letting  
"here at Home the Restrictions under which this  
"Trade ought to be carried on, or by referring it  
"to the Governor and Council of *Fort William* to re-  
"gulate this important Point, in such a Manner, as  
"may prevent all future Disputes between the Subah  
"and the Company."

If Actions and Words convey any Meaning, certainly the withdrawing the First Motion, because of the Delay and Suspension of necessary Regulations, which it implied, and substituting in the Room of that Motion this new Resolution, clearly explains the Meaning of the Court to be, that some Regulations should immediately be established, either at Home or Abroad; the Directors expressly declare their Inability to form a Plan, destitute as they are of the necessary Lights and Informations; yet as they now chuse to join in the general Clamour, and throw an Odium on their Servants, they have been pleased to construe their own Orders into a Meaning directly opposite to the before-mentioned Resolution of the General Court, and to stile this an unauthorized Trade. The Servants, never once imagining that the Court of Directors had assumed to themselves an Authority superior to that of their Constituents, adopted the Sentiments of the General Court of Proprietors, at which Court they themselves, most of them, were present; they believed the Orders of the Court of Directors, although loosely expressed, were intended to convey the Spirit of the above Resolution. Among many injurious Reflections which have been thrown out, it has been said, that Self Interest influenced the Conduct of the Select Committee in this Institution; and that the Whole was calculated to bring Advantages to themselves. In Answer to this, I beg Leave to observe, that every Member of the Select Committee, under the Advantages they consequently possessed from their Rank and Situation in the Service, from their local Knowledge and Extent of Credit, must have derived to themselves much greater Benefit from an open, free, and unrestrained Trade, subject to a Duty even of 35 *per Cent.* each carrying it on on his own Account, than they could possibly expect from the Share assigned to each in this joint Trade, subject to the same Duty, and where the Profits were limited. So far as concerns myself in Point of Interest, I solemnly declare I would rather have preferred the former to the latter.

With respect to the Plan adopted for the First Year, for carrying on this joint Trade, the same was formed upon the best Knowledge we could then obtain of the Quantities of Salt consumed in the Country, and the Medium Prices of Salt at the different Markets. We actually searched back for near 20 Years, and the Prices, in Consequence of this Research, were paid at the several Markets, at which the Society transported Salt, from 12 to 15 *per Cent.* lower than the Medium Prices of the said Term; from these Markets it was dispersed through the Country by the Natives: Our Contracts for the Purchases were likewise left open to the Natives, and others indiscriminately; so that it may be here observed, we sought not the ultimate Profits either in the Purchase or the Sale. The Plan was thus calculated to bring Salt at a more reasonable Price to the Hands of the Consumer; to encrease the Revenues to the Company £. 120,000 *per Annum*; and to hold out such Rewards of Fidelity to their Servants, as might engage them, by Ties of Interest and Gratitude, to a cordial Discharge of their Duty; but Experience having pointed out, in the Course of a Year, some Defects in this First Plan, further Regulations were imposed in that adopted for the Second Year. The Duties to the Company were augmented from 35 to 50 *per Cent.* or from 120 to £. 160,000 *per Annum*: The Profits to the Servants were diminished; it was ordered that all Salt should be sold in *Calcutta* at a Rupee *per Maund* to the Native Merchants, into whose Hands, and under whose Management, it was then

then intirely thrown, with such Limitation of Profits at the different Markets, as yielded a sufficient Encouragement to the Merchant, and at the same Time brought Salt to the Hands of the Consumer at a more moderate Price than had been known in the preceding Years. Such were the Plans which are now stigmatized with the odious Appellation of a Monopoly: These are the Plans precipitately abolished by the Court of Directors, notwithstanding, to this Hour, they have not substituted any Thing in their Room, which deserves the Name of Regulations. I must here observe, that many Circumstances concurred to render this Plan the most eligible that could then be adopted. The Company at this Period having just come into the Possession of the Dewannee, the Nabob's Interest, with respect to the Duties, was of Course no longer a Consideration; but it became an Object with the Select Committee, how to enable the Company to derive to themselves, through the Channel of their Commerce, all possible Benefit from their new Acquisitions: This could not be effected but by an increased Investment in the Manufactures of Bengal; to secure this Increase, it became necessary to restrain the Servant from purchasing so largely as they had been accustomed to, on private Account, Goods of the same Assortment with the Company's: Raw Silk was earnestly sought for by the Court of Directors, and the Servants were particularly restrained in that Article, from which they had always derived the greatest Profits. Moreover, the whole Body of Proprietors having thought proper at this Time to bind down by Covenant their Servants from the Receipt of Presents, and the Salaries allowed, by the Company to their Council, being inadequate even to the Charge of a House Rent, no Prospects of returning to their Native Country remained to the Servants, except from the Advantages of an Inland Trade. These are the Reasons which induced the Select Committee to lose no Time in forming a Plan to carry on this important Inland Trade. What were the Reasons which operated with the Court of Directors, to abolish and suffer the Trade to relapse into its former Anarchy, they alone can best explain; they have abolished a for the Inland Trade, from which the Company gained first £. 120, and next £. 160,000 per Annum; from which their Servants derived an honourable Reward of their Fidelity, with a reasonable Prospect of Independency at the Close of their Servitude; from which the Native Merchants received their full Share of the Advantage; and from which the Consumer received his Salt at a more moderate Rate than he had done for many Years preceding; a Plan equally advantageous to the Company, to the Country, and to the Servants; and which, in my Opinion, they will soon be obliged to adopt again, or One similar to it.

And the Witness being asked, Whether he thought the Quantity of Salt made in Bengal, was equal to the Consumption? he said, There were different Opinions upon that Subject, but in his own Opinion, more than the Consumption was made; and that this Opinion was formed from observing the Difficulty the Society found in disposing of their Salt; and that speaking at Random, he should imagine Two Millions of Maunds would be sufficient for the Consumption, and in favourable Times 2,800,000 Maunds were made: That Salt was also imported into Bengal from the Coast of *Chormandel*, and from *Persia*, the Quantities in general but small, and that from *Persia* principally used medicinally: That the Regulations did not extend to the Salt imported; and that no Salt is exported: And being asked, Whether the Committee of Trade, or Governor and Council, lent the Money of the Society of Trade to the Treasury in Bengal, and received the Interest, and that Interest being made Principal was lent again, and so on from Two Months to Two Months? he said, That no such Transaction ever passed to his Knowledge: That on a Report of that Kind prevailing, some Weeks ago, he had made it his Business to search

the Company's Records upon that Subject; and that he found, on the Consultation of the 28th of January 1771, mention made that 16,000 Rupees, Principal Money, was lent by the Society to the Company, on the usual Terms of 8 per Cent. per Annum Interest: That it appeared by the same Consultation, that this same Sum had been paid into the Treasury so far back as the 23d of November; and that the Bonds granted for the same were to bear Interest from the 1st of the Money was paid into the Treasury, though they were not executed till Two Months after the Payment, according to the usual Custom of the Service; and that he since understood that it was upon this Circumstance, misapprehending that Two Months Interest had been paid, that such Report took its Rise.

And being asked, If the Governor and Council ever pay Interest for their Bonds, except yearly? he said, Never, when they pay the Bonds off in ready Money; but that it has been a Custom for many Years past, on the Dispatch of the Ships to Europe, that Bonds are received with the Interest made up thereon, without any Regard to their Dates, and cancelled for Bills of Exchange on Europe.

And the Witness being questioned as to the Prices of Salt at Calcutta in the Year 1761, and at other Times, previous to the Establishment of the Society; he informed Your Committee, That in November 1761 he sold 55,000 Maunds at 155, in December 35,000 at 165:—Those Sales, and the subsequent ones, were at a Time when no Duties were payable in Calcutta, but that the Merchants who bought of him, were subject to the Duties of the Country Government; and all the Taxes, Stoppages, and Vexations in the Course of the Boats up the Country; that he sold the following Parcels as marked:

December 1767	Maunds.			
	2,000	—	at	167
	3,444	—	at	160
	12,363	—	at	167
	1,551	—	at	162
January 1762	2,710	—	at	167
For himself only.				
October 17	1,100	—	at	173
October 22	224	—	at	170
December	541	—	at	170
	3,085	—	at	167

And the Witness being asked, If he knew of any Books of Accounts being kept by the Society, of the Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco? he said, That One Set of Books, comprehending the Accounts of the Society from the 1st of September 1765 to 31st of August 1766, was opened on the 1st of September 1765, under the Denomination of Society of Trade, Letter (A). Another Set of the same Sort were opened in the following Year.

And being asked, At what Time the Tax of 35 per Cent. was payable, and by whom? he said, In the 1st Year the Duties were payable by the Committee of Trade, as Guarantees for the Proprietors; but no Time was stipulated for the Payment in the Deed of Incorporation: That the Duties upon Salt were computed at 90 Rupees the 100 Maunds; upon Beetle Nut, at the Price at which the Society purchased; and that the Society never bought any Tobacco.

Your Committee also examined William Bolts, Esquire, respecting the Price of Salt before and after the Establishment of the Salt Society; and he informed your Committee, That at a public Sale, in the Mayor's Court or Townhouse of Calcutta, on the 2d or 3d of April 1764, 178,991 Maunds were sold in small Lots, 1,200 at 101, the rest from 97 to 60 Rupees per 100 Maunds, and that the Salt was at Salky, opposite the Town of Calcutta; on the 22d of November 1764, 20,000 Maunds were delivered at Nulloo, about a Day's Journey

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Journey from *Calcutta*, to Mr. *Thomas Rumbold*, at 85; from *October 1764*, to *March 1765*, another Quantity, of 14,725 Maunds, were at the same Place delivered to Mr. *Walter Wilkins*, at the same Price; upon an Agreement made in *December 1764*, 30,000 Maunds were delivered by him in *Calcutta*, in *April 1765*, to Mr. *Russell Skinner*, and Mr. *Thomas Hewitt*, and others, at 80 Rupees.—On the 29th of *June 1765*, his Agent, Mr. *Peter Gallopini*, as Administrator to Mr. *William Hay*, deceased, sold *Harry Verelst* 25,195 Maunds, at 95 Rupees. In *August 1765*, and *July*, Salt sold from 112 to 116—*September and October*, to 141—*November*, 150—*August 1766*, 230—*October*, 280.—These were the current Prices of Salt at that Time.—At *Calcutta* and at *Dacca*, the Prices were according to the following original Account of Sale :

On the 13th September and 18th November 1765	—	170
January 1766	—	175
15 February	—	190
September 1768	—	305

And it was at the same Price at that Time at *Rajahbary*, a Market Two Days Journey from *Dacca*, as appears by an Attestation under the Kazy's Seal, produced by the Witnesses. The Prices of Salt at *Patna* were, on the 13th *March 1763*, at 270 per 100 Maund— from 31st *January 1766*, to 11th *July*, the Witnesses sold by his Agent, *Cojamul*, 7,200, at *Bahra*, *Safforam*, and *Cboufa*, at 4 Rupees 7 Annas per Maund, or about 444 Rupees per 100 Maund—from 18th *June 1766*, to 14 *May 1767*, Salt was sold by his Agent, *Cojamul*, on the Borders of the *Patna* Province, at near 6 Rupees per Maund, or near from 578 to 600 Rupees per hundred Maunds, Retail, at *Cboufa* and other Places within the Distance of 5 or 6 Days Sail from *Patna*.

The Witnesses further said, That the Rupees mentioned above were *Benaras* Sonants; the Maunds were 80 and 82 *Sicca* Weight.

And being asked, Why Salt was at so low a Rate at *Patna* in the Year 1763? he said, Because it was very low at *Calcutta* at that Time, which was the Time of the Troubles.

Being asked, Whether every Body at that Time was selling their Salt, and all other Commodities, for what they could get? he said, He was not under any Apprehensions, longer than the First Months, of the breaking out of the War—All the general Alarm was over after the Battle of *Gareea*, which happened on the 2d of *August 1763*.

Being asked, What were the Distances of *Cboufa* and *Safforam* from *Patna*? he answered, Two Days; by Water, Four, or Six, according to Weather and Current.

And the Witnesses being desired to inform the Committee, at what Prices he had sold Salt at preceding Periods, and having consulted his Books for that Purpose, by Desire of the Committee, he transmitted an Account as follows: "In Answer to the Question which was put to me, relative to the Duties and Price of Salt in Bengal and its dependant Provinces, at Periods previous and subsequent to the Establishment of the Exclusive Society at *Calcutta*, in the Year 1765; upon a careful Examination of authentic Papers in my Possession, I find, that at *Patna*,

"In *May 1762*, Mr. *Henry Lyfington* sold 2,000 Maund, at 3. 5. 0. per Maund, or at 331 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

"In *May 1763*, Mr. *John Harris* sold 1,200 Maunds, at 2. 11. 0. per Maund, or 268 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

"At *Murshedabad*,

"In *February 1763*, Mr. *P. Harney* sold 2,400 Maunds, at 188 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

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"In *April 1765*, Mr. *Afianus William Senior* sold 1,600 Maunds, at 150 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

"At *Calcutta*,

"In the Year 1761—From my Transactions with

"Mr. *John Wollaston*, *Soberambysack*, and others,

"I find the Medium Price of Salt for the whole

"Year, sold and delivered at *Calcutta*, the

"Ground Duties being paid, was 170 Rupees

"per 100 Maunds.

"In the Year 1762—It was from 170 to 160 Ditto,

"the Ground Duties being also paid, by the

"Seller or Importer.

"January 1763—Upon the same Conditions I sold

"to a Black Merchant, Name *Chaud Haldar*,

"10,000 Maunds, at the then Market Price of

"159 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

"I have already given Evidence of what the Prices

"of Salt were in the Years 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767,

"and 1768.

"In the Year 1769, I find, that Messrs. *Archibald*

"*Keir* and Comp. sold to Mr. *William Young*,

"delivered at *Calcutta*, the Duties being paid,

"10,000 Maunds of Salt, at 126 Rupees per

"100 Maunds;

"And to *Keelramgobse*, upon the same Terms,

"Maunds 1,800, at 130 Rupees per 100

"Maunds.

"And to *Sook deb Mullick* 59,393 Maunds,

"deliverable at *Culna*, the Ground Duties being

"paid, at 140 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

"The Khallery, or Ground Duty, upon the making

"of Salt, all over *Bengal* and *Orissa*, was always

"extremely inconsiderable, before the Establishment of

"the Regulations made by the various Committees of

"the *English* Council at *Calcutta*, from the Year 1762

"to the present Time; inasmuch that a Salt Merchant

"making his Salt at first Hand, in a great Part of the

"Salt Countries, could have made, transported, and

"landed his Salt in *Calcutta*, within the Expence of 25

"Rupees per Hundred Maunds.

"In the Years 1762 and 1763 I was myself concerned in a large Parcel of Salt, which being imported

"from the Provinces of *Telaffore* and *Midnapore*, and

"landed on the Shore opposite to *Calcutta*, Ground

"Duty and all Charges included, stood the concerned

"at the Rate of Fifty-five Rupees per Hundred Maunds;

"upon the Exportation of Salt from *Calcutta* on our own

"Accounts, I and my Partners always paid the Row-

"anah Duties established with the Country Government;

"and upon the Stoppage of some of our Boats for the

"new Duties, after Governor *Vansittart* had settled the

"*Mongbeer* Treaty with the Nabob *Cassim Ally Cawn*,

"we actually paid the Duty of 9 per 100, established

"by that Treaty, during the Contest upon that Subject,

"to avoid any Appearance of a Dispute upon the

"Value of the Duty.

"The Medium of the Charges of transporting the

"abovementioned Salt, from the Provinces of *Telaffore*

"and *Midnapore* to *Calcutta*, was about 7½ Rupees per

"hundred Maunds.

"The Committee of Lands at *Calcutta*, during Mr.

"*Vansittart*'s Government, about the Year 1762,

"established a Ground Duty, which continued to 1764,

"upon all Salt made in the Company's Twenty-four

"Pergunnahs, of Thirty *Sicca* Rupees per Khallary, or

"Set of Salt Pans, which were estimated to produce in

"One Season from 250 to 300 Maunds each Khallary,

"that Duty was established as an Improvement of the

"Company's Revenue, which it certainly was, but it

"was at that Time looked upon as a great Encroachment

"on the Laws of the Country; upon the Establishment of the exclusive Society, by the Right

"honourable Lord *Clive* and the Select Committee at

"*Calcutta*;

" *Calcutta*, in 1766, the above Khallary Duty was by their Regulations abolished, though afterwards said to be continued, and Salt throughout the Country was subjected by that Committee to a Duty of 35 per Cent. valuing the Salt at 90 *Arcoi* Rupees per hundred Maunds; and in the Year 1766 they fixed this Duty at 50 per Cent.—By a Paper in my Possession, which is a Copy transmitted to me from *Bengal*, of an Order published in the *Bengal* Language, by the Governor and Council at *Calcutta*, dated the First of *April* 1769, it appears the whole and sole Duty on Salt was fixed at Thirty Rupees per hundred Maunds, payable upon the Dispatch of the Salt from the Pans.

" Before the Establishment of the before-mentioned exclusive Society, *Calcutta* had so far become a general Repository and Mart for Salt, that it was from thence transported to every Part of the Country, even to *Luckypore* and other Places, much nearer to the Salt Grounds than *Calcutta*; so that the Prices which Salt could have been afforded to be sold for at all the Inland Places, upon a free Inland Trade, may be very nearly and fairly computed by calculating the Risk and Charges to the respective Markets, and adding them, with an equitable Profit, to the *Calcutta* Price."

And Mr. *Bolts* being desired to give an Account of any Boats belonging to him being stopp'd; he informed Your Committee, that in the Month of *October* 1766, 24 Boats of old Salt belonging to him were stopp'd by the Phouzdar at *Rajamaul*—they had the Company's Dufftuck, and the Permit of *Hooghly*, having paid the 2½ per Cent. the Phouzdar told his Agent, as he informed him, that he did it by Mr. *Sykes's* Orders; he applied to Mr. *Sykes*, but in the mean Time the Phouzdar insisted upon having Money, and took 100 *Sicca* Rupees from his Agent; the Boats were detained, and at a considerable Expence to him; that Mr. *Sykes* on his Application got them released, and ordered the 100 Rupees to be returned; he had no Allowance for Losses sustained by Demorage, nor did he ever learn that the Phouzdar was punished.—The Obstructions he met with every where induced him to sell many Parcels of Salt, at various Places, much lower than he should otherwise have done; that he sold 7,582 Maunds, to Mr. *Sykes*, at *Salta Gunge*, near the *Dinapore* Province, at 250 Rupees per 100 Maund, in *August* 1766; which Salt he might have sold at the same Place, and at that Time, for 300 Rupees per 100 Maund, if there had not been any Obstructions.

And *Francis Sykes*, Esquire, being desired to relate what he knew of the above Transaction, said, he recollects that Mr. *Bolts* wrote to him relative to the Stoppage of some Salt Boats; that on the Receipt of his Letter he applied to the Ministers at *Muxadabad*, who enquired into the Circumstances; the Phouzdar's Answer was, That the Dufftuck which Mr. *Bolts's* People were possessed of had not been produced to the proper Officer; but on further Enquiry into it, he found that Mr. *Bolts's* People had the Dufftuck, and he could not get at the true Knowledge why the Boats were detained; but he desired the Administration would order the Phouzdar to return the Money he had taken; which they did accordingly, and the Money was returned; and that he recommended to them to punish the Officer.—He declared that no Officer of the Government ever received any Orders for the stopping of any Boats whatever.—*Rajamaul*, where the Boats were detained, is Two Days Journey from *Muxadabad*.

And for further Information respecting the Prices of Salt at different Periods at *Patna*, Your Committee examined *Gregory Cojamaul*; who said, that in *March* 1765 he found by Enquiry, the Market Price was 225 Rupees the 100 Maund; and he sold some Salt, the 14th of *June* following, to *Kifing Chund* and others, at 250 Rupees;—at *Safferam*, the 30th of *August* 1766, he sold

Salt at 575 Rupees; those sold at *Patna*, were for *Patna Sonants*, those at *Safferam* were *Benaras*.

And being asked, What was the Price of Beetle Nut at *Patna*, at the same Time? he said, On the 11th of *March* 1765 Beetle Nut was at Four Rupees per Maund; 28th of *January* 1767 Beetle Nut was bought for him at 18 Rupees per Maund; on the 13th of *October* 1767 he bought of Mr. *Rumbold's* Banyan at 13 Rupees per Maund.

Your Committee next examined *Thomas Rumbold*, Esquire, relative to the Prices at which the Salt, belonging to the Society of Trade, sold at *Patna* during his Chiefship; and he informed Your Committee, that he was Chief of *Patna* from *November* 1766 to *November* 1769; and that a final Parcel of Salt in 1767 sold at 400 Rupees and 12½th the hundred Maund: That at the End of 1767 the greatest Part was contracted for, by some Black Merchants, at 375 *Arcoi* Rupees; the retail Price was Four Rupees to Four Rupees 12 Annas; or from 450 to 475 Rupees per 100 Maund; that of late Years the Price of Salt has varied very much, according to whether there were Troubles in the Country or not; that he does not know of his own Knowledge, but always understood that the Medium Price in former Years was about 350 Rupees per 100 Maund; that by an Account of Sales, on the 18th of *September* 1765, it appeared that Part of the Salt was sold at 400, and a large Part at 312. 6 Annas.

The Witnesses being asked, What Quantity of Salt used to be imported into the Province of *Babar*, before the Establishment of the Salt Society? he said, He found, by his own Observations at *Patna*, that the Consumption was about 400,000 Maunds a Year.

And being asked, Whether the Markets in *Babar* were sufficiently supplied? he said, There was so large a Quantity sent up by the Society, that when he left *Patna*, in *October* 1769, there was a great Quantity of the Society's Salt remained uncalled for by the contracting Merchants; when the Society first sent up their Salt, there was a great Quantity of private Merchants Salt then at *Patna*, which hindered the Sale of their Salt.

Being asked, Whether any Salt was imported into *Babar* by Individuals, after the Establishment of the Salt Society? he said, The Merchants who purchased the Society's Salt, the latter End of 1767, had agreed with them, that no Salt belonging to Individuals should be allowed to be imported into *Babar* till *September* 1768; that the Society reserved that Time to themselves for disposing of their own Salt; all the Society's Salt sold before the above Contract from 412 to 425; no Orders ever came to *Patna* for fixing the Price of Salt.

And being asked, Whether any Applications were made to him to hinder the Natives making Salt in 1768? he said, The Company's Salt Petre Works were under his Directions as Chief of *Patna*. In the District of *Durbangar* the Society's Agent, Mr. *Letitiaullier*, complained to him that the Salt Petre Manufacturers, instead of making the Salt Petre they ought to do for the Company, were employed in making Salt, to the great Detriment of the Sale of the Society's Salt; it had always been customary, from the Refuse of the Petre, to make a small Quantity of Salt, which Salt paid a small Duty to the Phouzdar, he also paying a Duty to the Government; he acquainted Mr. *Letitiaullier*, that he could not put a Stop to the making of that Salt, as it would interfere with the Duties to the Government; on this he complained to the Society of Trade; in Consequence of which he received a Letter from the President and Council, dated *May* 1768, to which, and his Answer on the Records, he referred.

And being asked, Whether he knows of any Orders from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* for stopping the Boats going to *Patna*? he said, There were Orders from the Society of Trade to him, and from *M. R. Cawn* to *Sheetabroy*, that no Salt was to be allowed to pass into the Province till *September* 1768; that he has not the Letter to

ascertain the Date, but he has his Answer, which is dated the 25th of May 1768; that the Nature of the Order to *Sbetabrey* was much the same as that to himself; that he, Mr. *Rumbold*, on the Receipt of his Letter, desired *Sbetabrey* to regulate that Matter himself, and that he never afterwards interfered in it; that Applications were made to him for Boats that were stopp'd in Consequence of that Order; and that he always referred them to *Sbetabrey*, who had the Execution of that Business.

And in order to obtain further Information, relative to the Sales of Salt, Your Committee examined Doctor *William Semple*, who informed Your Committee, That he went to Bengal as a Free Merchant, and was appointed a Salt Agent the Beginning of April 1766; that his Instructions were to take the Opinion of the Gentlemen of the Factory in settling the Price, and report it to the Committee for conducting the Trade; that he found the Gentlemen at a Loss, and therefore consulted the Black Merchants: The Price he recommended was 250 Rupees the 100 Maunds; at which Price, with the Approbation of the Committee of Trade, he sold upwards of 300,000 Maunds; that in the Course of the ensuing Winter, as he believed a little after Christmas, and the Beginning of 1767, he raised the Price, being informed that it was customary in a dry Season for the Salt to rise, and sold 50,000 Maunds at 320 Rupees in the Course of the Spring, and 31,000 at 300—1000 at 325; this was before the Conclusion of the First Year's Sale, which finished in August 1767; that the Second Year's Sale he opened at 300 Rupees 100 Maunds, on the First of September 1767; that the Merchants complaining to him, that the Price was rather too high, he reported it to the Committee, who authorized him to reduce it; and that he settled it, with the perfect Consent of his Employers and the Purchasers, at 200 Rupees, and sold 470,000 Maunds, or thereabouts, at that Price; that he finished the Second Year's Sale in September 1768; that the Committee signified to him, that the Society was to be dissolved, and he therefore notified it by their Desire to the Public, by a public Advertisement: And being asked, If on the Second Year's Establishment he had any stated Price delivered to him at which the Salt should be sold, and from whom? he said, He was instructed by the Committee of Trade to open the Sale at 300 Rupees for 100 Maunds, which was the Price he had recommended; and that there were no other Alterations made in the Price of Salt than those he had mentioned: And being asked, If all the Salt produced in the lower Districts of *Dacca* was sold by him at *Rajaherry*, or whether Part of it was consigned by him to the other Agents at different Places? he said, That the First Year Part of it was so consigned; that the Second Year he sold the Whole himself, and to Black Merchants, agreeable to his Orders so to do: And being asked, When he went to *Dacca*, and whether he had any Orders or Injunctions from Lord *Clive* before he went? he said, He arrived at *Dacca* in the Beginning of May; that when he waited on Lord *Clive* before he set out, his Lordship told him that the Salt Trade was settled in the best Method they could think of; that there were many Arguments for and against that Trade, amongst the strongest of which, in his Opinion, One was, sending so many Europeans into the Country, where they were frequently guilty of many Outrages, and that he hoped better Things of the Writings; that the Instant he had any well-vouched Fact of that Sort against any One of the Agents, he should be called down: And being asked, What Proportion Salt sold at *Rajaherry* at 250 Rupees bears to Salt sold in *Calcutta* at 200, allowing for the Difference of Risk, and Proximity of *Rajaherry* to the great Markets of the Country? he said, At *Rajaherry* they were liable to great Losses, and therefore their Price was obliged to be higher; that the Salt coming over the open Sea, great

Losses often happened; whole Fleets of the Boats being cast away; and he concluded, by saying, That there were not any Murmurs at the Price of 250 Rupees.

Your Committee proceeded next to enquire into the Nature of the Deed, mentioned in the former Part of this Report, and also in the Report of the Committee of Secrecy, to have been solicited by the Committee of Trade, on the 16 of September 1765, and into the Transactions respecting the same.

And Your Committee examined Mr. *Richard Whistall*, who being asked, If he knew any Thing of a Deed to protect the Salt Trade, and to indemnify the Committee of Trade? he said, He was a sworn Attorney of the Mayor's Court at *Calcutta*, that in October 1765, Mr. *Vereff* applied to him, and gave him Instructions to prepare a Deed of Indemnity from the President and Council of Bengal to the Committee of Trade; that he accordingly drew one up; and which, upon being shewn to Mr. *Vereff*, he, having made some Alterations, approved of it; that the Witnesses afterwards laid a fair Copy of it before the Governor and Council for their Approbation; that by Direction of the Board he made some further Alterations and Additions in his own Hand, and ingrossed it, and delivered it to Mr. *Laurell*, the Secretary to the Committee of Trade; that about Ten Days afterwards he waited on Mr. *Laurell*, who desired him to fill up the Penalty, and alter the Date, which was the 11th of September, to some subsequent Day, to make it consistent with the other Deed from the Society to the Committee of Trade; the Date of which had been altered, before Execution, from the 12th of August to the 18th of September: And being asked, If he could speak with Certainty as to any Time posterior, to which the Deed referred to must have been executed, supposing it was ever executed? he said, That in the Beginning of November he rented another House, where he was very certain both the Deeds referred to were ingrossed; and the Seal which the Deed from the Society to the Committee of Trade was sealed, he had from the Owner of that House after he went into it; that to the best of his Remembrance he delivered both Deeds to the Secretary about the Middle of November; about Ten Days after which he altered the Date, and filled up the Blank for the Penalty; that he was therefore induced to believe it must be the End of November, or Beginning of December, before either of them were executed. And being asked, If he had ever seen either of them after they were executed? he said, In September 1766 he waited on Lord *Clive*, to receive Instructions to prepare another Deed, when his Lordship informed him, that he had been perusing those Two Deeds, and which were then laying before him on the Table; that his Lordship observed to him, that there was not any valuable Consideration expressed, and asked him, if he thought them valid; that he said, he could not ascertain how far they were valid in Law, but that he had prepared them agreeable to the Instructions he had received: And being asked, If he was sure the Deeds, if ever executed, must have been executed after the 15th of October? he said, He was positive of it: And being asked, With what Sum the Blank for the Penalty was filled up? he said, He believed £. 300,000, and that Lord *Clive* talked of those Deeds to him as Deeds executed: And being asked, Whether he had any Instructions to keep this Transaction secret? he said, He had not; but that he never did mention it to any Body but Mr. *Banks*, which was in the Year 1769; that he did not mention it, because he thought it was a Matter that should not be made public, from the Nature of the Transaction, it being an Agreement to carry on a Trade contrary to the Orders of the Company: And being asked, What were his Motives for mentioning it to Mr. *Banks*, after keeping it secret Three Years? he said, That talking to Mr. *Banks*, whom he esteemed his Friend, about a Contract he had made



made for the Committee of Trade, he mentioned it in common Conversation: And being asked, When and on what Occasion, he first mentioned the Deed in *England*? he said, That he mentioned it soon after his Arrival, which was in *November 1770*, because he thought it ought to be made public, and that he was not bound in Honour to keep it secret; that he first spoke of it to Mr. *Balis*, and in *December 1771* was called before the Court of Directors to be examined about it. (The Copy of the rough Draft of the Deed produced, by Mr. *Whitall*, as referred to in the above Evidence, is hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 63.)

Then *William Brightwell Sumner*, Esquire, being asked, If he knew any Thing of a Deed entered into between the Governor and Council, and Committee of Trade, to enfore the carrying on the Salt Society for One Year? said, That such a Deed was entered into; the express Terms of the Deed he did not recollect; but he said, he considered it as an Engagement on the Part of the Proprietors to pay to the Company certain stipulated Duties, and on the Part of the Governor and Council to secure to the Proprietors the carrying on that Trade for the Space of One Year, or to save and bear them harmless.—Being asked, Whether any Mention was made of that Deed by the Governor and Council upon Record? he referred Your Committee to the Consultations 16th of *September 1765*; and to the 40th and 41st Paragraphs of the Letter from the Governor and Council to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of *September 1765* (Copies of which are annexed in the Appendix to the former Report of this Committee).—And Mr. *Sumner* being asked, Whether the Deed, which he had formerly said was executed, was drawn up by Mr. *Whitall*? he answered in the Affirmative.

Some Days after the above Examination, *Henry Strachey*, Esquire, a Member of the Committee, produced a Paper, which he said, he believed, to be a Copy of the Deed of Indemnity to protect the Society of the Salt Trade; that he ordered a Copy to be made, when he was in *Bengal*, in *1766* or *January 1767*; that the Paper is in the Hand Writing of Mr. *William Hipsley Cox*, who was in his Office at that Time, as to the Body of it; and that the Names of the contracting Parties subscribed to it, and the Indorsement, are in the Hand Writing of Mr. *William Wynne*, who was also an Assistant in his Office; and that he

believed it to be the Copy he so ordered to be made: And being asked, When he found that that Copy was in his Possession? he replied, A few Weeks ago, but could not say exactly: And being asked, If he could say, that the Deed was executed before the 15th of *October 1765*? he said, He did not know when it was executed.—And Your Committee have also annexed a Copy of the said Deed produced by Mr. *Strachey*, N<sup>o</sup> 64.

Your Committee having thus stated all the Circumstances they have been able to collect respecting the Deed of Indemnity in *1765*, they think proper to remark, That by a Letter from the Committee of Trade, dated the 15th of *July 1767*, entered in General Consultations of the 27th of the same Month, it appears that a Second Deed of Indemnity must have been entered into with the Committee of Trade for that Year; viz. *Messieurs Cartier, Russell, Aldersey, and Floyer*; but no such Deed has appeared before Your Committee, nor can they discover any Traces of it in the Records of the Company.

Your Committee is next proceeding, in Pursuance of their original Plan, to enquire into the several Matters therein contained, and they will report from Time to Time, to the House, the Progress they shall make therein.

Your Committee have added to the Appendix, N<sup>o</sup> 65, 66, and 67, State of the *Dyannce Revenues* of the *East India Company's* Territorial Acquisitions, from *May 1765* to the last Advices, with the Amount of Charges collecting, &c. and Civil and Military Charges, with the nett annual Balance; and also the State of the Receipts of the Northern *Sircars*, from the Time of the Grant of them to the last Advices; and also Copy of the Minute of Mr. *John Johnstone*, *October* the 1st *1765*, in Answer to the additional Declarations of *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, in his Letter of the 23d of *June 1765*, and the Resolutions of the Select Committee thereupon, on the 4th of *July* following; which Papers are referred to in the Body of the last Report from this Committee, but were omitted to be annexed in the Appendix thereto.

# A P P E N D I X.

## N° 1.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 22d February 1764.

53. **W**E cannot avoid taking Notice, that in the Course of the Proceedings between the Commissaries of this Company and those of the Dutch, among other of the latter's alleged Grievances, they complain that the Opium Trade at Patna had been monopolized by Mr. McGwire; and we find by your Registers, that the said Complaint was too well founded: You are therefore to signify to Mr. McGwire our Displeasure at this Transaction of his; and as such a Proceeding in future must prove very prejudicial to Individuals, and be the Means of occasioning Embarrassments to the Company, it is our positive Orders, that you take Care to prevent every Kind of Monopoly; and if you find any Person or Persons guilty of such unfair Practices, he or they are to be forthwith dismissed from the Company's Service.

## N° 2.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United East India Company, dated at Berkley Square, 27th April 1764.

"IT is likewise true, that the Encroachments made upon the Nabob's prescriptive Rights, by the Governor and Council, and the rest of the Servants, trading in the Articles of Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco; together with the Power given by Mr. Vansittart to subject our Gomastahs or Agents to the Jurisdiction and Inspection of the Country Government; all concurred to hasten and bring on the late Troubles; but still the Groundwork of the Whole was the Nabob's Independency. It is impossible to rely upon the Moderation and Justice of Mussulmen; strict and impartial Justice should ever be observed; but let that Justice come from ourselves. The Trading therefore in Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco, having been One Cause of the present Disputes, I hope these Articles will be restored to the Nabob, and your Servants absolutely forbid to trade in them. This will be striking at the Root of the Evil. The

"Prohibition of Duftucks to your junior Servants will, I hope, tend to restore that Economy which is so necessary in your Service. Indeed, if some Method be not thought of, and your Council do not heartily co-operate with your Governor, to prevent the sudden Acquisitions of Fortunes, which have taken Place of late, the Company's Affairs must greatly suffer. What Power it may be proper to invest me with, to remedy these great and growing Evils, will merit your serious Consideration: As a Means to alleviate, in some Measure, the Dissatisfaction that such Restrictions upon the commercial Advantages of your Servants may occasion in them, it is my full Intention not to engage in any kind of Trade myself, so that they will divide amongst them what used to be the Governor's Portion of commercial Advantages, which was always very considerable."

## N° 3.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Court of Directors, dated Calcutta, 1st February 1766.

14. **P**ERMIT me, Gentlemen, to return you my most grateful Acknowledgements for the Confidence you are pleased to repose in me, by the 40th Paragraph of your General Letter of the 15th of February 1765, in Relation to the important Article of the Salt Trade; and though I hope my Conduct in your Service will intitle me to your Approbation in every other Instance, I cannot but congratulate myself on the Success of that particular Plan, since it was originally proposed by me, during my Voyage to India—The only Doubt that arose

trade with me was, whether the Management of the Trade of Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco, should be intrusted to Europeans or to Natives; and although I acquiesced with the rest of the Members of the Select Committee, in having it carried on by the Free Merchants, give me Leave to assure you, my Acquiescence proceeded rather from a Principle of Humanity, than a Conviction that it was more for the Interest of the Company, or for the Interest of the Society; but as every Day's Experience demonstrates the Impropriety of the present Mode, it becomes my Duty to explain to you my Sentiments on that Subject.

15. The original Capital for carrying on this Trade being 24 Lack, which is speedily to be increased to 32, and the Salt being to be disposed of at so many different and distant Parts of the Country, gives Room for boundless Expence; an astonishing Number of Boats must be provided, and kept in constant Repair, and Armies of *Seapoys* must be maintained to protect them, as well as the Agents at their several Places of Residence. These *Seapoys*, under the Sanction of their Masters Names, will lay the whole Country under Contribution; wherever they go, Remonstrances and Complaints without Number will be made by the Country Government; and the Revenues, in which you are more immediately affected, will fall short: These Agents, besides drawing 5 per Cent. upon the net Sales, will build elegant Houses for their own Convenience; and I verily believe that an Hundred and fifty thousand Pounds will scarce defray the extraordinary, and, in my Opinion, useless Expence, by confining the Sale of Salt to *Calcutta*, *Dacca*, and Two or Three other principal Places where the Salt is produced: All these Inconveniences will be remedied; the Company will receive as much; the Proprietors will receive as much as they do upon the present Plan; the immoderate Charges of Agents, Boatmen, Houses, Boats, and *Seapoys*, will be saved; the Capital need be but Half of what it is now, and

consequently the Interest of a large Sum of Money will not be lavished; instead of confused and complicated Accounts and Returns, not in Two Years, the Accounts will be simple and plain, and the Returns immediate: But what weighs more with me than all the Arguments hitherto advanced, is, that we shall avoid the odious Imputation of Monopoly: Thousands of the Natives will have Profits out of this Article, by purchasing it at Two or Three Places only, and disposing of it afterwards all over the Country; for I propose that no European whatever shall have any further Concern in it.

16. If you should think proper to adopt this new Mode of carrying on the Salt Trade, and agree with me in the Expediency of withdrawing all the Free Merchants, Humanity will call upon you to make some Provision for those who are deserving of your Favour; and I cannot, in Justice to the Characters of the following Gentlemen, avoid recommending them to your Consideration; their Age, Behaviour, and Experience, intitle them to the Rank of Factors; and, I doubt not, they will become meritorious Servants of the Company.

Mr. Archdekin,	Kellican,
Basille,	Knett,
Bensley,	Lifter,
Blomer,	Mudie,
Cobham,	Tates,
Craigie,	Leibicullier,
Dairymple,	

The very sensible Behaviour of Mr. Ducarel, upon the signing of the Memorial of the Servants to the Court of Directors, obliges me to point him out to you, as particularly deserving of your Favour; although he was only appointed a Writer last Year, yet his Age and Understanding qualify him for a higher Station; some Encouragement you will undoubtedly bestow upon him for his Conduct in the late Affair.

N° 4.

Fort William Consultation, 22d February 1763.

Copy of the Imperial Mandate.

To all Governors, Officers, and Managers of our Affairs, Jagirdars, Fauzdars, Karuries, Rahdars, Guzdars, and Zemindars, of the present and Time to come, in the Provinces of Bengal, Babar, Orissa, Port of Hugbly, and other Ports of the aforesaid Provinces, who hope for the Imperial Favour.

BE it known unto all you, that in these Days of our triumphant Reign, Mr. John Surman, and C. Husjab Sherad, Agents on the Part of the English Company, have preferred a Petition in our just and equitable Presence to the following Purpose:

In consequence of a Decree of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty Shab, deceased, and former Grants, the English Company are exempted from all Customs in all Parts of our Dominion, except the Port of Swatt, pay annually into the Imperial Treasury at Hugbly Three thousand Rupees, as a Tribute in Lieu of Customs; and hope that, according to former Grants, our Royal Mandate will be vouchsafed to them.

Our absolute and high Command is passed, That you, knowing well whatever Goods and Merchandize their Agents may bring into, or carry out from, the Ports, Borders, and Quarters of these Provinces, either by Land or by Water, be exempt from Duties, shall leave

them to buy and sell at their own free Liberty, shall annually receive the established Tribute, and upon no other Account impede or interrupt them.—Moreover,

If any where the least Article of their Effects shall be made away with, you are to use all Diligence in the Recovery thereof; and shall deliver over the Thieves to condign Punishment, and the Goods to the proper Owner: Further, wheresoever they may set up a Factory, and buy and sell Goods and Merchandize, you are to afford them Help and Support in all Matters of Contract, and with all Justice and Fairness cause to be repaid unto their Agents, whatever Demands they may have upon any Merchant, Weaver, or other Person; and you are to allow no one to molest their Agents; or shall you stop Boats hired by them, or of their own Property, for Toll, or on any other Account whatever.

They also represented to our most Sacred and Excellent Majesty as follows:

In our Provinces the Petty Officers insist upon the original Grant and Attestation under Seal of the Nadthim and Devan of the Province; but transmitting the original Grant into all Parts being difficult, they hope that, accordingly, Credit may be given to Copies under Seal of a Cazy Magistrate, and the original Grant not be demanded, nor they interrupted for Want of an Attestation from the Nad Nazim and Deiwan. Moreover,

That in *Calcutta* the Company have a Factory; that the Right of holding *Calcutta*, *Satalutee*, *Gobindpoor*, in the Estimate of the *Pergunnah Ameerabad*, &c. of the Province of *Bengal*, which they bought of the Zemindars, has been a long Time made over to them; that they pay annually, as a Tax for it, One thousand One hundred and Ninety-five Rupees, Six Annahs: Also, that there are Thirty-three Villages at the Taxation of Eight thousand One hundred and Twenty-one Rupees, Eight Annahs, pertaining to the said Districts; they intreat, that the Right of holding the said Districts be granted to them, the Tax for which they being annually to pay into the Royal Treasury.

Our most high and equitable Decree has been made to this Effect: Copies of the original Grant, under Seal of the chief Cazy Magistrate, shall be deemed valid; and we have been pleased graciously to confirm them in their Right of holding the Dees Regious they have purchased, upon the former Conditions; and granted them the Power of keeping the other Districts, for which they petitioned; the Diwan of the Province shall suffer them to make the Purchase of the lawful Owners.

They further entreat as follows:

From the Reign of his most bounteous Majesty *Shah*, deceased, in the Provincial Treasuries, an Exchange has been taken on their Money coined at *Cheennapatan*; now, seeing that the Silver of their said Money is of equal Fineness with that of *Suratt*, they, our Subjects, though Petitioners, accordingly suffer a Loss; and humbly beg that our Imperial Order may be passed, that they be not molested on Account of the Value of their Coin, equal in Goodness to that of *Suratt* and other Places.—Moreover,

That if any of the Company's Servants, indebted to them, should make his Escape from any of their Settlements, he may be sent back to the Chief of their Factory; also, that they be not interrupted on Account of the Poundary Duties, or any other Abuah Fauzdary Practices not allowed, because of which the Company's Agents and Officers do suffer Inconvenience.

An Order from our most high and authoritative Court has been passed to the following Effect:

From the 5th Year of this blessed Reign, if the Silver coined at *Cheennapatan* shall, in Fineness, be like unto the Coin of the Royal Harbour of *Suratt*, there shall be no Discount required on the Cuffore, or the Exchange.—And,

Any one of the Company's Servants who shall be indebted to them, and make his Escape from any of their Settlements, you are to apprehend and deliver up to the Chief of their Factory; nor shall you throw any Impediment in their Way, on Account of collecting the Customs not allowed.

They have also represented, that,

In *Bengal*, *Babar*, and *Orissa*, the Company have Factories; and being desirous of erecting Factories in other Places, humbly beg, that wheresoever they may set up a Factory, Forty Begahs of Ground will be granted them from the Lands of the Empire: Moreover, their Vessels, at sundry Times, through Storms of Wind, are forced on Shore in our Ports, and are stranded; the Governors of the Ports injuriously make Prize of the Cargo, and, in divers Places, insist upon a Fourth Part of it; further, in the Island of *Bombay*, belonging to the *English*, the *European* Coin is current, may be struck into Siccas as at *Cheennapatan*.

Our absolute Decree is, That ye shall act as is the Custom at all Factories in our other Provinces, and ye are to protect those People, who hold Factories in all Parts of the Empire, and extend their Traffick even into the Imperial Camp, with their Effects and Vessels stranded or damaged, and supply them with all Things necessary.—And,

In the Island of *Bombay*, Siccas shall be struck, and be current in like Manner as the Siccas in other Parts of the Kingdom of equal Fineness with the Coin current in our happy Realms, shall pass for equal Value.—Moreover, in all Affairs ye are to act conformable to this glorious Decree, and strictly abstain from and avoid what is repugnant to the Order of our most high Court; nor shall you every Year insist upon a fresh Sunnud Grant: Herein use all Care and Diligence. Written on the 27 of the Moon *Maharam ul Haram*, the 5th Year of his Majesty's auspicious Reign.

Translate, N<sup>o</sup> 3. Copy of a Purannah under Seal of the Grand Vizier *Camsed Deen Chan Chien Babadur*, directed to *Nawab Serfaraz Chan*; viz.

May his Excellence of eminent and high Rank, the glorious Lord *Serfaraz Chan*, be distinguished with the Imperial Favour. At this Time the Deputy on the Part of the *English* Company has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained the Imperial Mandate, comprehending an Exemption on all Customs, on their paying annually the Tribute of Three thousand Rupees into the Royal Treasury at the Port of *Hugley*, and they do pay that Tribute into the said Port; but the People under the Nazim, and the Diwans in the Provinces, Fouzders, and others, contrary to the Order of his most sacred and august Majesty, to molest them in their Way, they being in humble Expectation, that an *Haabut Hukin*, directed to your Excellency of eminent and high Rank, comprehending an Exemption and Uninterruption, in Conformity to the Imperial Mandate, may be granted them; and it appearing, on the Face of the Books in his Majesty's Office, that the Sum of Three thousand Rupees, in Lieu of Customs in the *English* Company, is annually established; his most excellent Majesty's *Huabut Hukin* is accordingly, That you shall resolve to act in pursuance of the Imperial Mandate, not interrupting or molesting them, by any Manner of Exaction; in this Matter use the exactest Diligence and utmost Dispatch. Written on the 17 of *Rajabut Marjeb*, the 9th Year of the Reign.

Translation, N<sup>o</sup> 5. Copy of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty's *Haabut Hakin*, under Seal of *Cotab ul Malik Tameen ed Dowlah Seyed Ahe Ellab C. Han Babadur*, victorious in War, Commander of the Forces, trusty and well beloved; viz.

To the Ministers of State of the present, and Time to come, in all Parts and Provinces of their happy Realms.

Be it known unto you all, that at this Time *Mr. John Surman*, and *C. Hussajab Serbad*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, Petitioners on the Part of *English* Company, have intreated in the most gracious and august Presence, that the most Sacred and Imperial Orders might be passed in their Name to the following Effect:

"Every Company's Servant indebted to them, that may desert their Settlements, shall be sent back again to the Chief of their Factory."

Which being allowed—His Imperial Majesty's *Huabut Hukin* is written, that ye shall apprehend every such Person of the Servants of the Company as shall desert their Settlements, and deliver him up to the Chief of their Factory: In this Matter use all Diligence. Written on the 9th of the Moon *Dzue Hijab*, the 5th Year of the Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 6. Copy of his most Sacred and Imperial Majesty's *Haabut Hukin*, &c. &c.

Be it known unto you all, that at this Time *Mr. John Surman* and *C. Hejjab*, and *Mr. Stevenson*, Petitioners

tioners on the Behalf of the *English* Company, have intreated as follows:

The Company's Agents and Officers in most Places being troubled on Account of Forniaith Abuah Munnah, collecting the Customs not allowed, they request his Majesty's Orders may be passed, that they be not impeded on Account of Fouzeany or Zemindary Duties, or the other Customs not allowed.

A Decree of the most High Court, exempting them from the Customs not allowed, being made, and the Imperial Mandate granted them; his most sacred and excellent Majesty's Hasbut Hukin is accordingly written, that ye acting in strict Compliance with the glorious Edict, shall not in any Manner impede or molest the said People on Account of Customs not allowed by the Imperial Court, to the End that they may carry on the Business of their Trade to their own Satisfaction. In this Matter use the exactest Diligence. Written on the 9th of the Moon *Dzee Hijab*, the 5th Year of the Reign.

Copy of the Imperial Hasbut Hukin, under Seal of *Jemlatul Mulk Modarul Mobam*, the Grand Vizier of the Realms, *Etemadod Dewla Camarod Deen C. Han Cben Babadar Naffat Jang Mabe-med Shaky*.

To the Officers of State of the present and Time to come, in the Provinces of *Babar*, Paradise of Nations, *Bengal*, and *Orixa*. Be it known unto you all, that at this Time, *Aneep Cband*, Deputy on Part of the *English* Company, has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained a special Mandate of Exemption from Customs, on paying the annual Tribute of Three thousand Rupees at *Hugbly* Port, and they do pay the established Tribute at the said Port; but the People of the Nadhim and Deiwans in the Provinces, and Fouzdars, and others, contrary to his Majesty's most inviolable Commands, molest them in their Way; they being in humble Expectation, that an Husbuk Hukin of Exemption from Duties and Uninterruption, pursuant to the Imperial Mandate, will be granted them; since also, from the Face of the Books in his Majesty's Office, it appears, that the Sum of Three thousand Rupees Peshkush, in Lieu of Customs on the *English* Company, is established in *Hugbly* Port. Accordingly, the Imperial Husbuk Hukin is written, in order that, pursuant to the Contents of the Special Mandate which they have obtained ye may proceed, and in no Manner or Way hinder or molest them in this particular Year, to use the exactest Diligence and utmost Dispatch. Written on the 29th of the Moon *Shaabans*, the 9th Year of the Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 13. Copy of a Diftah under Seal of *Jemlatul Mulk*, &c. Grand Vizir *Camarod Deen Cben Babadar*.

To all Gomastahs, Fouzdars, Rahdars, Gurznabans, and Zemindars, and others, Guardians of the Roads and Passes in the Provinces *Babar*, Paradise of Nations, *Bengal*, and *Orixa*, this Diftah is written; viz.

The *English* Company are exempt from all Duties, pursuant to the Emperor's Special Mandate, and they pay annually Three thousand Rupees into the Treasury at *Hugbly* in Lieu of Customs; and in the aforesaid Provinces they are allowed to have annually, for the Time to come, Fleets of Boats passing and repassing:—The Imperial Hasbut Hukin is in Consequence written, that you shall not stop or interrupt them on Account of taking Toll, and the other Customs not al-

lowed by the Court, but shall suffer them to pass in Safety. In this Particular use the most exact Diligence and utmost Dispatch. Written on the 17th of *Rejats ul Marajab*, the 9th Year of the Reign.

Translate, N<sup>o</sup> 16. Copy of the Imperial Hasbut Hukin, under Seal of *Colabut Mulk Seyed Abdullab Chan Babadar*, &c. &c.

To the Officers of State of the present and Time to come, in the Provinces of these happy Realms.

Be it known unto you, that at this Time Mr. *John Surman*, and *C. Haqjall*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, Petitioners on the Part of the *English* Company, have represented, in the most sacred and auspicious Presence; as follows:

At the Ports that the Company have Factories established, the *English* People buy and sell in most of the Ports and Aurungs; but in sundry Places and Aurungs, whither the sending of *Englishmen* can't be effected, they make Contracts with the Merchants and Traders of their Country, and deposit their Money with the Merchants and Traders, to purchase the Commodities and bring them to them; they hope that his Majesty's Order may be given to the Officers of State, that they shall not hinder or interrupt any Person that with a Duffcoat from the Chief of their Factory may make any Purchase in these Ports and Aurungs.

His Majesty's absolute Decree being made, That you shall take the List of the Account under Seal of the Chief of their Factory; and, according to that List, give a Sannad under your own Seal; the Imperial Hasbut Hukin is written for you to proceed in Conformance to his Majesty's Decree, and taking a List of the Account under Seal of the Chief of their Factory, you shall give a Sannad under your own Seal, agreeable to that List:—In this Matter use the exactest Diligence and utmost Dispatch. Written on the 5th of the Moon *Dzee Hijab*; the 5th Year of the Reign.

N<sup>o</sup> 21. Copy of the Imperial Hasbut Hukin, under Seal of *Seyed Abdullab Chan*, &c. &c.

May his Excellency of eminent and princely Rank, *Akaram C. Han*, be favoured with the Almighty Protection.

At this Time Mr. *John Surman*, *Chaujab*, and Mr. *Stevenson*, Petitioners on the Part of the *English* Company, have represented in the most high and respectable Court as follows:

The Gold and Silver, on Account of the Company; used to be coined in the Mints *Jobangirnagar* and *Aebarganar*:—But a Mint being some Years past established in *Harcemabad*, they humbly hope, that the Company's Money may be coined therein as heretofore, and that the Officers of the Mint may ask no more than what is customary, and take only the appointed Charges; and that when the Merchants may have a great Deal of Bullion, Three Days in the Week may be allotted for coining the Company's Money; his Majesty's most authoritative Decree being passed, That your Excellency do cause such Regulation to be made; the Imperial Hasbut Hukin is accordingly written, that you do establish, that the Gold and Silver of the Company, according to former Custom, be coined in the Mint of *Kariemabad*; and when the Merchants may have a great deal of Bullion, upon Condition the Government suffers no Loss therefrom, you shall cause that Three Days in the Week be set apart for coining the Money of these People. In this Matter observe the exactest Diligence and utmost Dispatch. Written the 9th of *Dzee Hijab*, the 5th Year of the Reign.

N° 22. Copy of a Charter under Seal of the most excellent *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Chan Bahadar, Mahabatt Jang*, from the 17th of the Month *Shewal*, the 4th Year of the Reign.

To the Officers of State of the present and Time to come, Lieutenants, Fouzdars, Zemindars, Chowdhries, Canungoes, Officers, and Managers in the *Paradise of Nations, Bengal, Babar, and Orissa*.

Be it known unto you, seeing that the *English* Company is exempt from Duties, in Consequence of the Special Mandate and Imperial *Hafut Hukin*:—Therefore we have written, to the End, that on those Goods, which the Company's Factors carry backwards and forwards by Land or by Water, with a *Duftuck* under Seal of the Chief of their Factory, at their Factories, Aurungs, and other Places, you are not to demand the least Duty or Custom, but to allow them free Liberty to buy or sell, not interrupting them in any Manner whatever, nor requiring any Thing by Way of *Sillhey*, *Mangan*, or other Customs of the Zemindary—and the Company's Agents shall buy and sell the Company's Goods, nor shall there be a Broker concerned therein without the Company's Consent; and you shall assist them, whereforever they may make Purchases or Sales of any Commodities. Whosoever shall act so repugnant to this Order shall be delivered up to the Disposal of the *English*, and receive the Recompence of his Deeds; and if in any Place a single Article of the Company's Effects shall be made away with, you are to find out that very same, and return it to the Company, or else be answerable for the same yourselves; and you shall cause to be repaid unto the Company's Agents whatever Demands they may have upon Merchants or other People for Failure of Contract:—Nor shall it be in the Power or any one to molest their Agents. Moreover, you shall not stop Boats hired by them, or of their own Property, on Account of Toll or other Customs: You shall give Credit to Copies of the Company's Grants attested by the Magistrate, nor demand the original Grants; and any one that is dependant on the Company, and shall desert their Bounds, you shall not protect or support him, but deliver such Person up to the Chief of their Factory.—Moreover, you shall not molest the Company's Agents or People, on Account of collecting the Fouzdary Duties, or any other Customs not allowed by the Government. Further, the Company have Factories in the Provinces of *Bengal, Babar, and Orissa*, besides which, wherever the Company have a Mind to set up a Factory, you are to give them Forty Begahs of Ground; and if Vessels of the *English*, through Storms of Wind and Rain, run ashore in our Ports or other Places, and suffer Shipwreck, you are to give them all Assistance; take particular Care of stranded Vessels, and deliver them as saved to the Company, and are not to demand a Fourth Part, or any Thing else forbidden by his Majesty. Moreover, a Mint is established at *Calcutta*, and the Company have a perpetual Right to coin Gold and Silver, which may be equal in Weight and Fineness to the *Ashrafees* and *Rupees* of *Moorshedabad*; it is to pass current in all his Majesty's Treasures—Use all Diligence to act strictly in Conformance to the herein written; nor shall you annually demand a fresh Charter.

Treaty with *Serauje Dewla*.

First. Whatever Rights and Privileges the King has granted the *English* Company, in their *Phirmaund*, and the *Hutbulhookums* sent from *Dilly*, shall not be disputed or taken from them, and the Immunities therein mentioned be acknowledged and stand good: Whatever Villages are given the Company by the *Phirmaund* shall likewise be granted, notwithstanding they have been de-

nied by former *Subahs*; the Zemindars of those Villages not to be hurt or displaced without Cause.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to the Terms of the *Phirmaund*.

Second. All Goods passing and repassing through the Country by Land or Water with *English* *Duftucks* shall be exempt from any Tax, Fee, or Imposition, from *Chokeys*, *Caulwales*, Zemindars, or others.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to this.

Third. All the Company's Factories seized by the Nabob shall be returned.—All Monies, Goods, and Effects, belonging to the Company, their Servants, and Tenants, which have been seized and taken by the Nabob, shall be restored.—What has been plundered and pillaged by his People, made good, by the Payment of such Sum of Money as his Justice shall think reasonable.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to restore whatever has been seized and taken by my Orders, and accounted for in my *Sicary*.

Fourth. That we have Permission to fortify *Calcutta*, in such Manner as we may think proper, without Interruption.

Signed by the Nabob. I consent to it.

Fifth. That we shall have Liberty to coin *Siccas* both of Gold and Silver, of equal Weight and Fineness to those at *Muxadavad*, which shall pass in the Provinces.

Signed by the Nabob. I consent to the *English* Company's coining their own Imports of Bullion and Gold into *Siccas*.

Sixth. That the Treaty shall be ratified by signing, sealing, and swearing, to abide by the Articles therein contained, not only by the Nabob, but his principal Officers and Ministers.

Signed by the Nabob. I sealed and signed the Articles before the Presence of God.

Seventh. That Admiral *Charles Watson*, and Colonel *Robert Clive*, on the Part and Behalf of the *English* Nation, and of the Company, do agree to live in good Understanding with the Nabob; to put an End to these Troubles, and to be in Friendship with him, while those Articles are performed and observed by the Nabob.

Signed by the Nabob.—I have sealed and signed the foregoing Articles upon those Terms: That if the Governor and Council will sign and seal them with the Company's Seal, and will swear to the Performance on their Part, I then consent and agree to them.

Translate, N° 24. Copy of a Sannad or Charter, under Seal of his Excellency the Nawab *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Chan Bahadur Mahabatt Jang*, directed to the *Rajahs*, Zemindars, *Jaludcars*, (Verbally the same as N° 22.)

N° 25. Copy of a *Daftak* taken on the 20th of the Moon *Daccadad*, the 4th Year of the Reign, under Seal of *Suja el Molk Haffem el Dowlab Meer Mahomed Jaffer C. Han Bahadur, Mahabatt Jang*; viz.

To the Fouzdars, Zemindars, and Chokeydars, *Guzrbans*, and Guardians of the Roads and Passes, in the Provinces of *Bengal, Babar, and Orissa*, this *Daftak* is written.

The Goods of the *English* Company should have always a free Passage backwards and forwards, both by Land and by Water, agreeable to the Order of his most Imperial Majesty, in the Provinces aforesaid, accompanied with the *Daftak* of the *English* Company. Now also know it to be again established and appointed: It behoves you to acknowledge the Company's *Duftuck* as current, and in no Manner or Way to impede or hinder their Goods, either passing or repassing in the Way, on Account

Account of collecting the Hambarah Mangan, and other Customs not allowed, by the Imperial Court, but to let them pass without taking the least Duty or Custom whatever, and without molesting the Dependants on the said Company. In this Matter using the exactest Diligence, as agreeable to herein written.

Translate, N<sup>o</sup> 23. Copy of a Grant for a Mint, under Seal of his Excellency of Senatorial Rank, the Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffer Can Babadar Mahabatt Jung, from the 15 of the Moon Decandab, the 4th Year of his Majesty's Reign; viz.

May their Eminencies of high Rank, of illustrious and directorial Dignity, the most honourable Company of Merchants of England, be the Object of the Imperial Favour.

You have a Mint established in Calcutta: You the most honourable of Merchants are to coin Siccas, bearing the Name of Calcutta, of Gold and Silver, equal in Fineness and Weight to the Ashraffes and Rupees of Morshedabad: Your Coin shall be current in the Provinces Bengal, Babar, and Orissa, and shall pass in the Imperial Treasury, nor shall any one stop or impede it because of Batta.

Copy Translation of a Treaty between the Nabob Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn and the Company.



Meer Mahomed  
Cossim Cawn  
Babadar.

Two Treaties have been written of the same Tethor, and reciprocally exchanged, containing the Articles under mentioned, between Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn Babadar, and the Nabob Shums's Dewalab, Governor, and the rest of the Council, for the Affairs of the English Company; and during the Life of Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn Babadar, and the Duration of the Factories of the English Company in this Country, this Agreement shall remain in Force. God is Witness between us, that the following Articles shall in no wise be infringed by either Party.

First Article.—The Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn Babadar shall continue in Possession of his Dignities, and all Affairs be transacted in his Name, and a suitable Income shall be allowed for his Expenses.

Second Article.—The Nigbat of the Subahdaree of Bengal, Azimabadan, and Orissa, shall be conferred by his Excellency the Nabob on Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn Babadar: He shall be vested with the Administration of all Affairs of the Provinces, and after his Excellency he shall succeed to the Government.

Third Article.—Betwixt us and Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn Babadar, a firm Friendship and Union is established; his Enemies are our Enemies, and his Friends are our Friends.

Fourth Article.—The Europeans and Jolings of the English Army shall be ready to assist the Nabob Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn Babadar in the Management of all Affairs, and in all Affairs dependant on him they shall exert themselves to the utmost of their Abilities.

Fifth Article.—For all Charges of the Company, and of the said Army, and Provisions for the Field, &c. the Lands of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, shall be assigned, and Sunnuds for that Purpose shall be written and granted. The Company is to stand to all Losses, and receive all the Profits of those Three Countries; and we will demand no more than the Three Assignments aforesaid.

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Sixth Article.—One Half of the Chunam produced at Silket for Three Years shall be purchased by the Government of the Company, from the People of the Government, at the customary Rate of that Place. The Tenants and Inhabitants of those Districts shall receive no Injury.

Seventh Article.—The Balance of the former Tuncaw shall be paid according to the Ristbundic agreed upon with the Roy Royan. The Jewels which have been pledged shall be received back again.

Eighth Article.—We will not allow the Tenants of the Sircar to settle in the Lands of the English Company, neither the Tenants of the Company be allowed to settle in the Lands of the Sircar.

Ninth Article.—We will give no Protection to the Dependants of the Sircar, in the Lands or in the Factories of the Company; neither shall any Protection be given to the Dependants of the Company in the Lands of the Sircar; and whoever shall fly to either Party for Refuge shall be given up.

Tenth Article.—The Measures for War or Peace with the Shahzada, and raising Supplies of Money, and the concluding both those Points, shall be weighed in the Scale of Reason; and whatever is judged expedient shall be put in Execution; and it shall be so contrived by the joint Council, that he be removed from this Country, nor suffered to get any Footing in it, whether there be Peace with the Shahzada or not. Our Agreement with Meer Mahomed Cawn Babadar we will (by the Grace of God) inviolably observe, as long as the English Company's Factories continue in this Country. Dated the 17 of the Month Saffer, in the Year 1174 of the Nejra.

Sign Manual of

Meer Mahomed Cossim Cawn.

This was sealed on the 18th of the Month Saffer, in the Eleven hundred and Seventy-fourth Year of the Nejra; and the Proposals are agreed to.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 26th February 1702-3.

You must insist upon it as our Right, that we be Custom-free in Bengal, Patna, and Orissa, on the Payment of 3000 Rupees a Year; that our Dufftucks pass in all Places; that our Grant of Calcutta and adjacent Towns be continued; and that all the other Privileges and Advantages obtained by the old Company formerly, or by them or the new Company of late, be enjoyed by this United Company, according to the true Meaning and full Intent of the said Grants; and we would have the Servants of each Company do all they can to keep us in quiet Enjoyment of the said Privileges, by representing to the Government, you are now the English national Company, justly intitled unto those Privileges.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 2d March, 1702-3.

Our Privileges in Bengal of being Custom-free, excepted the Yearly Acknowledgement of 300 Rupees, are so essential a Property to this Company, and of such great Importance to us, that it requires the utmost steady Care and Fidelity to preserve them: It was an expensive War, a Stoppage of Trade, and other Accidents, that retrieved them after they had been left chiefly by the Feuds among our Servants, who, to justify their own Quarrels, exposed the Unfaithfulness of their Chief to the Government; that he covered the Moors, and other Nations, Goods by our Dufftucks, and thereby defrauded the Nabob and other Governors of their Duties. To prevent the like Evil for the future, we order you to cause a Common Seal or Chop to be made, for the Sealing of Dufftucks, and other public Uses, with such Words or Motto as you shall judge most proper; which Seal or Chop we would have remain in the Custody of the Secretary, under the Keys or Seals of our

Two Chairmen, not to be used but in the Presence of them both; and the Secretary must attest and register all Dufftucks which you grant, and which we hereby direct shall be granted for *English* People's Goods, and no others.

Copy 72 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to *Fort William*. Dated the 4th February 1772.

Although you have frequently been warned by us against all Manner of illicit Trade, that our Affairs might not be embarrassed with the Country Government, and yet many Evils have we frequently suffered thereby, yet you acquaint us, that the Salt was clandestinely carried up in the Fleet to *Patna*, laying the whole Blame on the Military Officers, assuring us it was without your Privity.

Copy of the 148 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to *Fort William*. Dated 3d March 1758.

We therefore order, That the Custom Master do in future keep the Register of Dufftucks, and that no Dufftuck be granted, but on Oath made by the Party demanding the same, that the Goods or Merchandize specified, be and are on his own proper Account; and that he does not directly or indirectly therein cover the Property of any of the Natives of *Bengal*, Free Merchants, or any others, excepting our Investment Contractors bringing down our Goods (but not their own) and our covenanted Servants; that the King, or *Moors* Government be not defrauded of their just Duties and Revenues; that the said Oath be tendered by our Custom Master, who shall attest the same at one Corner of the Dufftuck, before it is presented to the President for his signing and sealing; and in all Respects, when it does not clash with our present Plan of Regulations, you are to adhere strictly to the Rules and Orders laid in our Letters, *per Somerset and Pelham*, dated the 17th June 1748.

Copy of 34, 37, 38, and 39 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to *Fort William*, dated the 17th June 1748.

34. As many Disputes arise with the Country Government, from a licentious Use of the Privileges granted to the Company, particularly by giving our Dufftucks to such who are not intitled to have them, either by Virtue of the Mogul's Phirmaund, or by any Authority from us, or by the Abuse of them, even by such as may have a Right to them; and as we cannot with Reason expect to have our Affairs carried on in a quiet amicable Manner, while our Servants are committing or conniving at such Mal Practices, to the Prejudice of the Royal Revenues, and the Support of clandestine Traders, which must manifestly be hurtful to the true Interest of the Company; we strictly enjoin you to take Care, that for the future all Abuses of that Nature be effectually prevented; and that we may have Cognizance of all Dufftucks granted, and the Uses that are made of them, we order that on Receipt of this no Dufftuck be granted to any Person, but on their Application for the same by Request in Writing to the Council; in which the Person making such Request shall set forth the Quantity and Sorts of Goods intended to be imported, and from what Place they are to come, and shall declare for whose Account they are; and the Council, finding such Requests consistent with the Rules of the Company, are to order Dufftucks to be made out and delivered accordingly: Minutes are to be made in a Book, kept for that Purpose, of all such Requests, distinguishing which are granted, and which are rejected; Copies thereof must be sent Home, at least yearly, signed by the Governor and Council; and a Book shall be kept, in which every

Dufftuck taken out shall be registered, whether it be for the Company's Account or for Account of others; the Particulars of each Dufftuck shall be entered on one Side of the Folio of this Book, with the Person's Name for whose Account it is, and a Blank shall be left on the other Side of the Folio, opposite such Entry, for the Purposes hereafter mentioned.

37. And that there may be no Doubt as to the Persons who are to enjoy the Benefit of the Dufftuck, it is hereby declared, that all Goods imported and exported by the Company, or for their Account, are to be sent with Dufftucks, and every Merchant who contracts with the Company, shall be intitled to a Dufftuck, for importing whatever he may have so contracted for; but not for the Exportation of the same, unless in Case of Damages, in order to send them back to the Aurungs to have the Goods new washed or repaired; all Merchants who buy Goods of the Company to send into the Country for Sale, shall be intitled to Dufftucks for that Purpose; for which Goods only, besides them, our immediate Covenant Servants are to be intitled to Dufftucks, and them under these Regulations; but every Person making a false Declaration, on requesting for a Dufftuck, or importing or exporting Goods, with Dufftucks, otherwise than allowed as above, or prostituting the Dufftuck in any Way whatsoever than it is asked for, shall be immediately dismissed from our Service, and sent Home; and every Merchant, dealing with the Company, who shall commit any Fraud in the Dufftuck, shall be excluded from having any further Dealings with the Company, directly or indirectly; and all the Goods imported or exported in fraudulent Manner, shall be deemed unlicensed Trade, and shall be confiscated accordingly; One Third to the Company, One Third to the Informer, and the remaining Third to the Register of the Dufftucks.

38. And in Cases where the Company's Affairs are involved with the Country Government, by Means of any Abuses of the Dufftucks, the Person who shall have committed such Abuse shall be answerable for the same to the Country Government out of their Estate; or if a Native, shall be delivered up to Country Government, as a Person having forfeited the Protection of the Company, if he do not make such Satisfaction as may immediately extricate the Company's Affairs.

39. Every Person dealing in *Bengal* Salt, or any other reserved or prohibited Commodity, contrary to the known established Laws of the Country, shall be dealt with as if he or they had committed a Fraud in the Dufftucks; but in Case the Country Government pretend, by any new Laws or Prohibitions, to encroach on the Privileges granted to, and hitherto enjoyed by, the Company, and those under our Protection, you are at all Events to resist such unjust Attempts; and if you cannot procure Relief by amicable Means, you are to obtain it by making Use of all the Force you have, as we wish on no Account to submit to any Innovation, which may, either at present, or hereafter, disgrace the Company, or be prejudicial to its Interests.

Copy of the 66, 67, 68, and 69 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to *Fort William*, dated the 25th March 1757.

It is with much Concern we observe, in your Detail of Transactions with the Country Government, that every Circumstance and Opportunity affords Pretences for Exactions; it is impossible for us to mark out any precise Rules for your Conduct in general; we can only say, that you are to be zealous in preserving our Phirmaund Rights and Privileges; and when any Sums of Money are demanded, or any Oppressions endeavoured to be laid on our Trade, or otherwise, that you will obviate or settle them upon the best Terms you can; in doing which, our great Dependance must be placed on your Sense and Care.

Among



Among many other unreasonable Demands, that made upon you for the Cozmah's Effects is of a very pernicious Nature, as it tends to render our Protection of no Effect, and subjecting the *English* Flag to Contempt. We find this Affair was not brought to an Issue, upon the coming away of your last Advices; but we hope your Steadiness and Resolution will disappoint *Hookumbeg* in his oppressive and lucrative Views, and confirm the rich Natives, who reside in the Company's Limits, that their Persons and Effects will be secure.

A further Instance of very unfair Proceedings appears in the Affair of the Chekeys; for after you thought our Trade was sufficiently and effectually secured from their Oppressions, by simple Grants from the Nabob, a Pretence was set up, of an Equivalent to be made for those leased out under the Packowrah Drogha, amounting to about Twelve Thousand Rupees, which we find was left to Mr. *Watts*, and his Council, to settle with *Hookumbeg*; with a Caution, and indeed a very proper one, that it should not be made a Precedent for the like Demand from his Successors; we hope to hear that this Affair has been settled accordingly; and here we must add, that, as many of these Oppressions take their Rise from great Abuse in the Dufftucks, we shall depend upon your regulating them, in such a Manner as will most effectually prevent all Pretences for Complaint in future.

We observe, upon *Hookumbeg's* making a peremptory Demand for Sicca Rupees 2,300, on Account of the Sugar Purchases, you had impowered the Gentlemen of *Coffimbazar* to pay him that Sum; this is another Instance of Oppression, which is now become in a Manner Annual; you must use your best Endeavours to prevent its being established as a Custom; and we do expect that you will take Care to collect, from these Persons who have the Benefit of that Trade, all Impositions it is the Occasion of.

Copy of the 102 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 1st April 1760.

The real Grievances and Clogs to the fair Trader are well known to you all; those removed, every Merchant would cheerfully submit to the moderate Duties we have directed to be levied; and this is confessed by the principal Subscriber to the Merchants Letter now in England. The Hardships we mean, are the gross and iniquitous Abuses that spring from the Power of Dufftucks; they being confined to our Covenant Servants, Trade has been subjected to very heavy Impositions. It is a well known Fact, can be proved Abroad, and also in England, that our Chiefs at Subordinates gain full Twenty per Cent. upon the Goods they provide the private Trader, and often exclusive of Commission; so that the Merchant carries his Goods to Market at an Advance perhaps of 25 per Cent. upon their Value in Bengal; the Black Merchants they apply to our junior Servants, and for valuable Considerations receive their Goods covered with our Servants Names; even a Writer trades in this Manner for many Thousands, when at the same Time he has often not real Credit for an Hundred Rupees: For the Truth of these Assertions we need only appeal to yourselves. This then is the Stream from whence have flown numberless Mischiefs, perhaps the capital Cause of your late dreadful Misfortunes. To fetter Trade is opposite to all good Policy; and we believe *Calcutta* the only Colony where Manufactories are locked up from the Merchant; we therefore must, we will, have a Reform in this important Branch, if it is evident; the Expence of that Phyrmyund Privilege for Commerce is injured by those unfair Practices; the Merchants can bear no more, and fearful to speak out, demands to our just Duties, and ascribes his Inability to remote Causes; the Government, annually defrauded of immense Duties, and even their Subjects Property

covered by the Company's Name, must ever look upon us as a vile faithless People, Strangers to Honour (and we must now add) Gratitude; such are the Consequences resulting from the Abuse of a Privilege of tained at a very heavy Expence, for our particular Advantage. In the regulating of this Branch, we wish to maintain a respectable Character, secure the Government from being injured, and preserve to the fair Trader such Freedom and Benefits, as are common to all our other Settlements, and which he certainly has a Right to. It is not in our Power to obviate all Difficulties, but however, points out the Remedy, to fix Trade upon an equitable Basis.—He may depend upon receiving signal Marks of our Favour; perhaps the Nabob may find it his Interest to settle for a certain annual Sum upon the general Trade, his own Subjects included, which will be farming the commercial Duties dependant upon *Calcutta*. This Scheme must, we apprehend, answer every good Purpose; it removes all Causes of Contention with the Government, Dufftucks will be abolished, the Merchant will gladly employ, and cheerfully allow our Servants a reasonable Commission, and Interest for the Provision of his Goods; but if more than Five per Cent. Commission is charged, upon Complaint he is to be redressed, and the Company will be reimbursed the annual Sum they may pay for farming the general Duties, by an additional Impost of Two or more per Cent. on the Goods brought down by Europeans, and a larger Duty on what may be imported by the *Indians*; and if the Amount should exceed the annual Sum stipulated with the Nabob, we are willing to add the Surplus to our President's small Emoluments: If this Plan should take Place, let us view the Trader's Situation; he is relieved from the present Exaction, from Twenty to Twenty-five per Cent. he will pay Five per Cent. Commission on his Goods, Two per Cent. to the Duties farmed, and Four per Cent. Customs, and he will therefore export his Goods from Nine to Fourteen per Cent. Advantage. If you can form a better Scheme, adopt it; but remember, at all Events we shall expect the Dufftucks are put upon such a just Footing, as to secure the Government their Duties, and enable the Merchant to pay our Customs.

Copy of the 110 to 118 Paragraphs of the General Letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 16th January 1761.

110. The Observations concerning the Privilege of Dufftucks, contained in the 101 and 102 Paragraphs of your Commands, dated the 1st of April 1760, have been considered, with that Attention which so earnest an Injunction from your Honours ought, and always will, excite in us: We beg Leave to assure you, that we have considered it with Minds free from any View to our own private Interests; and that, if the Regulation proposed by your Honours, or any other that we could imagine or have been informed of, had appeared capable of putting Trade upon a better Footing, for all Traders in general, without prejudicing the Company's Investment, we would most readily have endeavoured to obtain the Nabob's Consent.

111. Your Honours, perhaps, have not been sufficiently informed of the Difficulty that is continually met with, at most of subordinate Settlements and Aurungs, in procuring a Sufficiency of Cloaths for the Company's Investment; it would indeed be absolutely impossible ever to fulfil your Orders, were there not many Restrictions in Favour of the Company at the Subordinates; the Gentlemen in the Service are forbid to make any Purchases for themselves, until the Quantity required for the Company is secured; the Gentlemen at *Calcutta* are not permitted to send Gomastahs to purchase at the Aurungs dependant on any of the Subordinates, nor the Gentlemen of one Subordinate to make Purchases at another. It is the same with the Out Aurungs dependant on *Calcutta*; none of the Gentlemen

rtlemen in the Company's Service are permitted to fend Gomastahs to any Place where there is a Gomastah purchasing any Goods for the Company, without giving Notice to the Committee of Aurunga, and getting a Letter from them to the Company's Gomastah; who is to take Care that he does not interfere in any Thing prejudicial to the Company's Investments. These Restrictions are calculated to keep the Weavers confined, as much as possible to the Company's Sortments; which we believe would fall extremely short, as well as grow continually dearer, if the Free Merchants had the Privilege of Dufftuck equally with the Company's Servants; the great Number of Purchasers at the Aurung must of Course make the Price of Labour rise; Purchasers also, who having no Dependence on the Company, would not willingly submit to any Regulations we might make, nor think it just that any Preference should be given to the Company; the Trade would suffer so much by the Number of Competitors, that we think the Effect of such a Change would be very different from what your Honours propose; and that, instead of being a Relief to Trade, it would be a great Hurt to the Merchants in general, and to the Interest of the Company in particular.

112. We flatter ourselves, that your Honours will, for the Reasons before mentioned, approve of our not endeavouring from the Nabob, his Acceptance of a certain yearly Sum to be paid by the Company, in Lieu of the Duties now collected by the Government from the Merchants of Calcutta; so that all without Exception might have the Privilege of Dufftucks; but we believe, if we had found it so consistent with the Company's Interest to put the Trade upon that Footing, the Nabob's Assent could not have been obtained. The President when at *Murshadabad* asked, Whether such a Proposal would be agreeable? but far from approving it, he seemed much alarmed; sensible of the great Detriment it would be to the Revenues of *Houghly*, which are made up chiefly of the Customs upon Goods going to, and from, *Calcutta*.

113. The Sum to be paid the Nabob in Lieu thereof, in Case such an Agreement had taken Place, would have been so considerable, that the Dufftuck Duty to be levied here for the Company's Reimbursement, must have been a very heavy Addition to their other Customs; nor is it to be doubted, but those Merchants who complain now of the Preference given to the Company's Servants, in respect of Dufftucks, would have complained yet louder of this additional Duty.

114. Those Gentlemen who have signed the Letter referred to by your Honours, have for the most Part not the least Reason to complain of unreasonable Dealings in the Company's Servants; some of them who have employed Company's Servants to provide their Goods have had them at very moderate Rates; but in general they have been unwilling to make any Contracts, and have chosen rather to take the Chance of the Market, which has proved sometimes favourable to the Seller, sometimes to the Buyer; at this Time Goods made at *Cossimbazar* yield little or no Profit here, while Goods made at *Dacca* and *Luckypore* will yield Twenty, Twenty-five, or Thirty per Cent. and these last, Five or Six Years ago, were so extremely low here, that several of the Gentlemen of the *Dacca* Factory suffered much in their Fortunes, by providing them, as they could not get their Prime Cost; this Risk the Company's Servant runs; it is the fair Chance of an open Market, which the Free Merchants, for the most Part, as we have before observed, prefer to Contracts, and they have no more Right to complain when the Price in the Market happens to be high, than the Seller, when it happens to be low; when they themselves bring Goods to sell from foreign Markets, they are not wanting in their Endeavours to sell them for as high a Price as they can.

115. Such therefore have no just Reason of Complaint, as they have not contracted or endeavoured to contract with Company's Servants; but there are some, whom we understand have had sufficient Grounds for Complaint, we mean those who formerly had Concerns under the Governor and Council in the Freight Ships; in which we have been informed it was a Practice for each Gentleman of the Council to load his own Proportion in Goods, and these Goods every one charged at what Price he thought proper: The Captain and Super-cargo, depending on the Governor and Council to provide their Goods, were obliged to take their Concern in a Cargo made up after that Manner; and no Wonder the Voyages turned out extremely ill, an unreasonable Profit having been made on the Goods before they left the Port.

116. But we beg Leave to assure your Honours, That the Gentlemen, now concerned jointly with us, received a very different Treatment; such Goods as are bought at Market here, not having been contracted for before, are bought on the best Terms possible, by Managers appointed out of the concerned, and no Profit of any Sort charged upon them here; such Goods as are provided from the Aurungs by ourselves, or by Contract with the Gentlemen at the Subordinates, are delivered at so moderate a Premium as barely to answer the Interest and Risk of providing them, with a small Consideration for the Time and Charges saved by Means of the Dufftuck; an Advantage which was undoubtedly intended to be relieved to the Company's Servants, when the Indulgence of the Dufftuck was granted them; the Calculation of the Advance proposed to be put upon the Goods provided at the several Subordinates and Aurungs, in Proportion to the Distance and the Risk, is entered on the Minutes of the Consultation of the 24th of *November*, to which we beg Leave to refer you.

117. That the Abuse of this Indulgence, formerly too common a Practice, we have Reason to think is but a just Reproach; but we are equally convinced, that no such Practice has been followed since the Attention given to this Matter last Year, and the Oath prescribed to be taken by all who have the Benefit of this Privilege; we doubt not but this solemn Tie, added to the Regard which the Gentlemen in your Service have for their own Reputation, will be sufficient to make them abhor so dishonourable a Practice; if any there be, who, Strangers to these Sentiments, shall venture to abuse an Indulgence for which they ought to be thankful, we shall hold them unworthy of your Service, and make a severe Example of all who shall be discovered. The President will be particularly observant of the Applications made to him for Dufftucks, and he has already recommended to the Nabob, to cause all his Guards, at the several Choukeys, or Watching Places, upon the River, to be more strict in the Examination of Boats, and to seize all who shall be found with *English* Colours without a Dufftuck; this is an Impolition often practised by *Portuguese*, *Armenians*, and the Country People, to defraud the Government of their Customs; and through the Indolence or Knavery of the Chowkeys has doubtless succeeded very frequently, and been the Cause in great Measure of the Complaints that have been put underrivedly to the Account of the Gentlemen here.

118. We shall leave this Subject with assuring you, That we shall acquiesce, without murmuring, in the Loss of the Advantage of the Dufftuck, if your Honours, after considering all that we have taken the Liberty to say, shall continue to think such an Alteration would be for the Benefit of Trade in general, and consistent with the Company's Interest; at the same Time, we cannot help giving it as our Opinion, That the Company's Servant has a very reasonable Pretension to some Indulgence, in the Matters of Trade, over the Free Merchant; considering that the latter has his whole Time to

apply

apply to the Management of his private Concerns, while the former is employed for the most Part in attending his Duty to the Company.

Copy of the 43 and 44 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 19th February 1762.

By the Directions we gave in our Letter of the 1st April 1760, we meant, that the Nabob should not be defrauded of his Duties by an Abuse of the Duffuck, nor private Traders oppressed — but as it appears, by your Advices of the 16th January 1761; that the Farming the Duties of the Nabob, and the other Methods we have pointed out, are not practicable, we must therefore acquiesce in their not being carried into Execution; at the same Time, we repeat and enforce what we mentioned in our said Letter, that at all Events the Duffucks are to be put upon such a Footing as to secure the Government their Duties, and enable the Merchants to pay due Customs.

It has been intimated, That some of our late Servants had engrossed the Sale of Beetle and Salt, to their own great Envolument, but highly prejudicial to the Interest of the Nabob; as such Measures tend greatly to the embroiling our Affairs, as well as being injurious to the Community, we enjoin you to take the utmost Care, that neither our Servants, or any Persons residing under our Protection, have any Concern in such Farms for the future.

Due Attention having been paid to the Perusal of these several Papers and Extracts, the several Members of the Board are desired to give in Writing, next Tuesday, their Sentiments of the President's Letter to the Nabob, considered with all the aforesaid Papers, and also on the following Questions;

1st. Whether, by the Phirmaund and subsequent Treaties, we have a Right to trade in every Article, whether for Foreign or Inland Trade, Duty free?

2d. Whether any Duties ought to be paid to the Country Government on Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, or any other Articles?

3d. Whether the Company's Duffucks shall be for the future granted with such Articles?

Of late, the Trade of Salt, from Calcutta up the Country, has been carried on by the English Inhabitants in general, who having first paid the Duties at Houghly, and having got the Phoudar's Duffuck or Rowanna,

had then a Passport or Certificate from the President to accompany it.

4th. Whether Certificates should in future be granted to any but Company's Servants?

5th. Whether the English Gomastahs, in any Parts of the Three Provinces, shall be subject in any Manner to the Controul of the Officers of the Country Government, and how far?

6th. If not, how are we to regulate the Disputes that may happen between them and the Country Government, and particularly in those Parts where we have no Factory?

Received another Letter from Luckypore, dated the 16th Instant, acquainting us of further extraordinary Acts of Violence and Insolence committed by *Agá Nazam, Comar Ally, and Buddul Cawn*: The same having been read at the Board;

Agreed, We write an Answer thereto, directing the Gentlemen at Luckypore to seize the Persons of *Agá Nazam, Comar Ally, and Buddul Cawn*, and send them down to Calcutta, that we may either punish them ourselves or insist upon the Nabob's doing it; that on this Service, they will take Care to send Force enough to execute it with a Certainty of Success, and for that Purpose rather wait for a Reinforcement from Chittagong, than engage in the Enterprize with an insufficient Number; that in Case the Detachment ordered from Chittagong to Dacca should not have passed Luckypore before the Receipt of this Letter, they may direct the Officer to execute this Service before he proceeds thither; or, if any Part of it lies nearer and more convenient to the Districts of Chittagong, they may write to them to carry such Part into Execution from thence.

As a full Board was intended to have been summoned to consult on the Subject of the late Regulations, Mr. Johnson moves, That the Opinion of the absent Members, Messieurs *Ellis, McGuire, and Verelst*, be also asked on this Subject, and the Papers relative thereto be forwarded to them; which he thinks will obviate the Objection made to this Proceeding, of summoning the absent Members to the Board on Affairs of such Consequence, as it stands minuted by the President, the 1st February.

This Motion being approved; Ordered, That the Secretary do prepare Copies of the several Papers, to be forwarded to the above-mentioned Gentlemen as soon as possible.

Nº 5.

Fort William Consultation, 1st March 1763.

AGREEABLY to the Order of Council, the 22d February, the several Members now deliver in their Opinions in the Questions therein proposed.

Ordered, They be here entered in the following Manner:

First, Mr. Watts is of the Opinion, in an Answer to the Questions proposed last Council Day; viz.

That by the Phirmaund and Hubbulhookums the English East India Company have an undoubted Right to trade in any Articles produced in the *Indoghan* Empire, either for Foreign or Inland Trade, and that Duffucks ought to be given with *any* Articles; and that *Mirr Mahomed Jaffer Ally Cawn*, in his Treaty, has very particularly confirmed the same, for the Provinces under the Subadary of Bengal.

Secondly, That Duties ought not to be paid to the Vol. III.

Country Government on Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, or any Articles that have a Duffuck with them.

Thirdly, That Duffucks be granted with such Articles for the future.

Fourthly, That no Passports or Certificates should be granted to Company's Servants or others; but that Salt have a Duffuck with it, if the sole Property of a Company's Servant, but not to other English Inhabitants.

Fifthly, That the President, in his Letter to the Nabob, has given up the Privilege which the Company enjoyed by the Phirmaund, and therefore he continued in the same Sentiments as in the Consultation of the 17th January.

Sixthly, That subjecting our English Gomastahs to the Country Government would entirely prevent us from carrying on our Trade; nor is there any Necessity

for any Regulations in those Parts where we have an *English* Factory; but in the distant Parts of the Provinces something is necessary to be established, as well to prevent our Gomahtahs from being guilty of Oppressions to the Country People, as to keep the Officers of the Government from behaving in the Manner they have lately done; that this Point can only be settled between the Nabob and us.

Mr. *Marratt* is of Opinion, That the President ought to have waited till he could have received an Answer from the Board, before he wrote the Letter to the Nabob; as no Paragraph of the Board's Letters to the President appear to authorize him to conclude a Treaty without their Approbation, unless their Willingness to have Affairs settled with the Nabob on a solid Basis, with the Security of our Rights and Privileges, be construed in that Sense, which he does not imagine was the Intention of the Board.

That in regard to the Treaty itself, it differs far from our Phirmaund and Sunwads, granted in Consequence of our Treaties with *Ser Rojab Doula* and *Jaffer Ally Cawn*, particularly in giving up our Right in granting Duffucks for the Inland Trade (tho' some few Articles may have been denied us trading in by the Country Government, unless we paid Duties on them) notwithstanding our honourable Masters strongly recommended the being jealous of our Phirmaund Privileges; and also in submitting our Gomahtahs and Dependants to be under the Government's Jurisdiction, and liable on every Occasion to be called before their Courts, which is greatly derogatory to the *English* Name, and must take from us that Sway we ought to have in the Country, and without which no Business will be able to be carried on; and will greatly prejudice not only the Quality and Quantity, but also enhance the Price of every Article of the Company's Investment; that so far from submitting our Gomahtahs and Dependants to the Government's Courts of Judicature, our Phirmaund expressly orders all our Dependants that are indebted to us, and run away, to be immediately delivered up to us; and that the Government's People should give us all Assistance they can on such an Occasion, in order to recover our Demands.

That in regard to Exchange of Money, as we have an undoubted Right to coin Siccas from our Phirmaund and Sunwads, we ought to insist on those we coin should pass; but to obviate any Loss that might arise by Batta on Siccas of a different Mint at another Place, we should get Stamps of the several Mints where we have Occasion to send Money, and coin with those Stamps accordingly.

For these Reasons I entirely dissent to the Treaty, the ill Consequences of which must now appear too plain to every one; it being a dangerous System to trust the Government's People with so great Power; their Character of being rapacious and tyrannical, would, I thought, have been well known to every one: I am further of Opinion the said Letter of the President's to the Nabob should be demanded back, or hereafter bad Consequences may arise from it.

In Reply to the different Articles proposed to the Board, Mr. *Marratt* is of Opinion, That by the Phirmaund and subsequent Treaties, we have a Right to trade in Foreign and Inland Articles of Trade; if a direct Assertion is a sufficient Proof, and not One single Article of Trade prohibited us by the Phirmaund, &c. That the Government denying us to trade in a few Articles, without we pay Duties on them, is usurping an Authority they formerly were forbid; as by the Tenor of the Phirmaund it appears that further Usurpation and limiting our Trade were attempted by *Alivardi Khan*'s Ministers, in respect of paying Duties on Sugar, and which the Company remonstrated much against, and desire we will take Care these Things may not be brought into a Precedent; which shews the Opinion they entertained of those Encroachments; and by their

several Regulations and Orders concerning Duffucks, it plainly appears they only meant their Servants should not cover any Black Merchants Goods, or others that had not the Privilege of a Duffuck, and by that Means defraud the Government of the Duties they would have otherwise collected on the said Merchants Goods, which in Case of being detected might have been made a Plea for stopping the Company's Business and imbroiling their Affairs.

That in Consequence of the Government's collecting a Duty on Salt, which we for the most Part have acquiesced in, a Duty should be paid them at One Place, and a stated Sum for each Hundred Maunds at the Rate the *Moor* Merchants pay, and the Salt pass with the Company's Luffuck; more particularly as it is the Produce of their own Juggere, and the Collector of the said Duties Receipt for the same; after which the Boats not to be detained at any Gaur or Chowkey, further than to give the Chowkeydar Time to take a Copy of our Duffuck: That as the Company's Duffucks have been granted for Beetle Nut and Tobacco, they are Articles we should not give up, but continue the Company's Duffuck for those Articles accordingly: That our acquiescing in paying Duties on Salt, ought to be looked upon as a Concession on our Parts; as the demanding them is certainly an Infringement of our Phirmaund Privileges; but as other Subahs have received them, the Nabob has Custom to plead for his receiving them also; and as we have supported him in all his ancient Privileges, we ought to continue this to him, that it might not be detrimental to his Revenues.

That in granting a Certificate to *English* Inhabitants trading in Salt, for what they purchase, after paying the Government's Duties, he can perceive no bad Consequence attending it, as this Trade interferes not with any Branch of the Company's; and therefore thinks the President should grant them to those who are not covenanted Servants.

That the subjecting our Gomahtahs to the Controul of the Officers of the Country Government must, he conceives, be attended with the worst of Consequences, as it is giving up One of our Phirmaund Privileges, which must make us esteemed very light in the Eyes of the Generality of People, and consequently treated with Contempt by them, and be the Means of depriving our Gomahtahs of the Influence necessary for carrying on the least Business; that, in order to prevent our Gomahtahs from making a bad Use of their Authority, and injuring or diminishing the Government's Revenues, or interfering the least in them, this being One of the chief Articles of Complaint against our Gomahtahs, they should be again positively forbid holding Lands, Villages, Gunges, &c. of the Government, and an immediate Example made of those that disobey, and then no other Matters of Dispute can arise but in those of Trade; when the Party injured should apply for Redress to the Chief of the nearest *English* Factory, who, no Doubt, is invested with Authority sufficient to make the Gomahtah complained against, appear and answer to the Complaint, which, if appearing true, and a few severe Examples made on the Gomahtahs, would, I flatter myself, in a short Time have the desired Effect, and no Injustice be committed by *English* Gomahtahs in future.

Mr. *Hay's*.

My Reasons for joining with other Members of the Board, present the 17th January, in passing the Censure on the President, minuted on the Consultation of that Day, are, That by the Treaty or written Security that the Governor passed to the Nabob, the principal Rights and Privileges of the *English* Company, granted them by the King's Phirmaund and Hubbulhookums from *Dilley*, confirmed and fully explained by the Treaties with *Serajab Doula* and *Mier Jaffer Cawn*, and enjoyed since those Treaties almost in full, are given up in full without

without One single Advantage gained by the Company; but, on the contrary, the total Loss of the *English* Credit and Reputation in these Provinces, which has been greatly declining these Two Years past, was the visible Consequence of this Agreement, to every one who saw it and were the least acquainted with the Nature of the Country People; and it now grieves me, that the wisest Regulations, and the most steady Conduct of this Board, will not be able to prevent the immediate bad Effects of this ill-concerted and un-authorized Proceeding of Mr. *Vansittart*, as too plainly appears from the Letters received from the Subordinate, and the general Complaints of all our Agents and Gomastahs; which shew there is almost every where a Stop, to our great Incumbrances on our Business, and that our Servants are particularly ill used and oppressed.

In considering the Arguments for and against the present Treaty entered into with the Nabob by the President, it is absolutely necessary, for the forming a true Judgment on the Affair, that the unjust Methods used in the Country Courts of Justice, as well as the Methods practised by the Country Merchants in conducting their Affairs, should be continually in your Mind.

The Impossibility of carrying on Business when subjected to the Country Courts, I think, must appear plain to every one, when it is considered, that for all Sums of Money recovered in them you are obliged to pay, besides the Expenses of the Court, a Chout of 25 per Cent. on the Money recovered; which if the *English* do not submit to pay, it will always be the Interest of the Zemindars to decide against them; this I only mention as One of the numberless Grievances we should suffer, if subjected to their Authority; the Country Merchants are sensible of the Impossibility of carrying on Business under such Disadvantages, and are therefore obliged to buy the Protection of some Person of Authority in the Government, if their own Influence is not sufficient; which sets them above the Reach of the lower Zemindars of the Country, protects them from the Violence of all, and at the same Time gives them a Kind of judicial Authority, so far as to confine the Weavers and Pecars, when they cannot recover their Balances from them otherwise; this being well understood, I imagine, was the principal Reason for the Company's being at so great an Expence in procuring their Phirmaund and Husbulhookums; which exempt the Company from those Inconveniences; and likewise of the great Care that was taken to preserve them in their full Force by the Treaties with *Surjeb Daula* and *Alor Jaffer Cawn*.

Before I come to consider the different Articles of the Treaty, it is necessary to remark, That the Governor's arguing, both in his Letters and Minutes, in support of this Transaction, is on a Supposition, that the greatest Enormities have been, and are, committed by the *English* Gomastahs throughout the Country, to the great Detriment of the Nabob's Revenues and Government; but that this has not been the Case will, I think, plainly appear, from the several Complaints made against them, being no further supported than by the Assertion of those by whom made, and whose Interest it was to make Complaints of that Kind, as some Excuse for their Nonpayment of what was demanded of them; when, if there was any Foundation of these Complaints, it was so much in their Power, and so agreeable to the present Government and to the President that they should be proved, that they could never have wanted Means to have done it; and likewise by the numberless Oppressions that our Gomastahs and People have suffered throughout the Country for many Months past; for it is not to be conceived, that People treated in the Manner they have been, could have it in their Power to be guilty of those extravagant Violences and Enormities which they are represented to have been by Mr. *Vansittart*. This much premised, I shall now consider Mr. *Vansittart*'s written Security or Obligation to the Nabob, Article by Article.

In the First, Mr. *Vansittart* has given up the Right which the Company have, by their Phirmaund, Husbulhookums, and subsequent Treaties, of granting Duties, except for Ship Merchandize, laid a Tax of 9 per Cent. on all other Traffick; and, in a Manner, acknowledged that the *English* do carry on their Trade by Force or Violence, Extortion, or unfair Dealing.

I think the Board could never have justified themselves for giving up the Company's Privileges in this Manner; and of Course; that Mr. *Vansittart*, unauthorized as he was to enter into any Treaty, could have no Right to do it; but suppose it otherwise, How was it to be determined which were, and which were not, Ship Merchandize? Mr. *Vansittart* indeed, in a subsequent Article, has left that to be determined by those whose Interest it must be to determine them to be not so. In the Arguments used for the Tax of 9 per Cent. on the Trade from One Part of the Country to another, it is throughout insinuated, that this is less than what has been usually paid; and Mr. *Vansittart* says, That on all the Trade of this Kind that he has carried on, in Salt, &c. he has paid the Country Duties; but from my own Knowledge, as well as Enquiry, I have Reason to think, that of the innumerable Articles traded in this Way, only Salt and Tobacco have paid any; the former of which, by far the most considerable, I believe, last Year, on a Medium, did not pay above 3 per Cent. although we submitted to pay the established Country Duties. Mr. *Vansittart*, on being asked in Council last Tuesday, What those were that he meant by Salt, &c. replied, Only Salt, for that he never traded in any other. How ill then is his Argument supported by his Declaration, when explained? On the Whole, I believe we are by this Article, instead of trading Duty free, which I think we have an undoubted Right to, loaded with a Duty more than double what is paid by the *Dutch*, *Armenians*, or any People of the Country.

The acknowledging thus, in a public Writing, that the *English* do carry on their Trade by Force or Violence, Extortion or unfair Dealing, as I imagine, without any Foundation for such Assertion, is so hurtful to the Reputation of the *English* in this Country, that I look on it in the same Light that I do the giving up the Privileges of the Phirmaund.

By the Second Article, contrary to the Privileges that the *English* enjoy by Grants and Treaties, themselves and Gomastahs are subject to the Jurisdiction of the meanest Officer that the Nabob employs, without the Liberty of an Appeal.

I find so many Objections, of the same Nature as were made to the last, to be made to this, and every Article of this Treaty, that I shall only remark, on the Whole of the remaining Articles, That by being debarred the Liberty of making Salt, we are deprived of a Privilege that every Person, *Europeans* and others, in the Country, have, but ourselves.

That the giving up the Right of coining in the different Mints, is oversetting a Privilege granted from *Delly*.

That the throwing the whole Trade of *Assam* and *Rangemally* into the Hands of One Person, is a Monopoly most destructive to Trade, and more particularly if what Mr. *Vansittart* advances be just, that the Duty on Cotton alone in that Country brings in a Revenue of 40,000 Rupees, which if you supplied at 5 per Cent. must be raised on 800,000 Rupees worth, which if thus monopolized must greatly raise the Price of that Article, and of Course the Price of Cloth.

Upon the Whole, I think the written Security should be demanded of the Nabob, and destroyed, to prevent, in future Times, when our Affairs may not be in the flourishing Situation they are at present in Bengal, in Regard to Force, a bad Use being made of it; for it is probable that the Government would, in Case of having the upper Hand in the Country, make Use of it to invalidate the Privileges the *English* enjoy by their Phirmaund, Husbulhookums, and Treaties.

In Answer to Question the First, I say—Yes.

To Question the Second—No.

To Question the Third—Yes.

To Question the Fourth—That Certificates should be given after the Duties are paid.

To Question the Fifth—Not at all.

To answer to Question the Sixth I say as formerly, agreeable to the Phirmaund; but that a Plan be laid down by the Board to prevent any Injuries being done by the *English* Gomastahs, and for punishing those that are guilty; which I think may be well done by a Committee appointed for that Purpose, who should receive all Complaints and Appeals from Subordinates, or Agents residing with Authority of the Board in those Quarters, and examine them; and as it appears that great Part, if not the Whole, of the Troubles that have happened to the *English* and their Gomastahs of late, are owing to the Orders sent over the Country by the Nabob, I think it highly necessary that we have always a senior Servant resident with the Nabob, who should be acquainted with all Orders regarding the *English*; this I think we have a Right to demand, and is what we should insist on, as it will in future prevent our so long being ignorant of the Source of our Troubles as we have lately been.

Mr. *Johnstone* thinks the President's Letter to the Nabob, containing the new Regulations he intended to establish, is, from its abject Style, as well as Concessions, highly dishonourable to us, and such as could not fail of ruining our Trade and Influence, and reducing us lower than ever the *English* were at any Period in this Country; that the President, without Authority, or any urgent Necessity that yet appears, or can be conceived, resigned to the Nabob those Rights and Privileges we are intitled to by the Phirmaund, and subsequent Treaties, and have hitherto enjoyed by Virtue of them: First, By distinguishing the Company's Trade from that of their Servants, and agreeing to an exorbitant Duty of 9 per Cent. on all Articles of the Inland Trade, without Distinction, or Examination of what had usually been paid on any of these Articles at the different Subordinates; establishing the Rate upon that paid by the Gentlemen of *Luckpore*, tho' expressly mentioned by them to be more than what was paid at *Dacca*, and known to be above double the Duty paid heretofore at *Hugbly*, and though Salt was the only Article in his own private inland Trade that the President remembers to have ever paid any Duty on or before this Time: Secondly, In subjecting the *English*, and their Gomastahs, under the Authority of the *Moors* Courts of Judicature, contrary to the Privileges we have ever enjoyed of protecting those employed under us, and ourselves Judges of their Actions; the many ill Consequences of which, and the entire Loss of that Credit and Pre-eminence we have ever maintained, is evident to every Body, of which we have had ample Proof, since the Circulation of the Regulations, as appears from the Complaints of every Quarter, of the Abuse of the Power so easily put into their Hands, by the Stoppage of our Trade, and Attacks openly made on those entitled to our Protection: Thirdly, The prohibiting at once, without Reason, or ever consulting the Board, the Company's Servants, at the Factories of *Luckpore*, *Shamabad*, &c. from making Salt Works themselves, which is a Liberty not denied to any Native of the Country, and by which their Fortunes have been and are endangered, as no Time was allowed for collecting in the Money they had laid out, and the Balance due could only be recovered by receiving the Salt from the *Molongsies* they had employed.

The Articles ordering, without any Limitation, that all Purchases of Lands made by any of the Servants of our Factories should be resigned, was, I think, unjust and dishonourable to us, as if our Servants, where they paid the due Demands to the Government, were not intitled to our Protection.

The Article directing, that the Chiefs and Servants of the Factories are not to hinder the Weavers and Brokers of the Government, has been considered as giving a full Power to the Nabob's Officers over them People, and may turn to the Ruin of the Company's Investment, as appears by the Proceedings of *Mahomed Ali* at the *Dacca* Aurang.

The foregoing the Privilege we had of coining in the Mints of *Paina* and *Dacca*, while no Provision was made for the Currency of our Siccas at those Places, without Discount, was giving up what the Company could demand of Right: And,

Ordering all Purchases at *Gualparab* to be made intirely through the Nabob's Orogan, was an Infringement of our Rights of a free Trade in that Quarter, and against the Treaty with *Jessier Ally Cawn*, by which we are freed from being even obliged to buy by the Intervention of *Delolla*.

The Minute of the Board the 17th *January*, on the Proceedings of the President, therefore to me appears well grounded; and I think the Treaty ought to be recovered from the Nabob, and destroyed, that so bad a Precedent may never be established and used against us.

Next, in regard to the Questions proposed, he thinks first, that by virtue of the Phirmaund, *Hulbulhookums*, and the Treaties with *Serajah Dowla* and *Mirr Jaffer Ali Khan*, I think the Company and their Servants have a Right, without any Restriction or Limitation, to trade in and grant Duffucks for every Article, whether for Foreign or Inland Trade: Our having been restricted by the Power of the Subahs, before the Revolution, from the full Enjoyment of these Rights, can never be urged as a good Argument to invalidate them; when we became powerful enough to assert them, they were established as fully and clearly as could be expressed, in the public Treaties then concluded, and in *Sunnuds* and *Duffucks*, afterwards issued in consequence, by *Serajah Dowla* and *Jessier Ali Khan*, for the uninterrupted Currency of our Trade, through the indisputable Authority of the *Duffuck*, wherever it was granted; and these *Sunnuds* were not merely for such Quarters where the Company had Factories and Aurangs, but comprehended also all the distant Frontier Provinces, where they had not the least Trade of any Kind, as *Rungpoor*, *Purnea*, *Rangamattly*, *Danagpoor*, *Sylhet*, &c. And *Jessier Ally Khan* yet agrees, that he understood the Treaty in this Sense; that wherever a Company's *Duffuck* was granted, no Duty could ever be demanded. If Custom, and what Privileges we enjoyed under the *Moors* Government before the Revolution, are to be established, as what only we have a Right to trade in now by virtue of our Grants, *Phirmaund*, &c. there is scarce an Article of the *Gruft* Trade, whether for Export or Consumption in *Calcutta* and other Places in the Kingdom, but we must give up; for it is known we could not professedly in our Names trade in those Articles, though willing to pay the Duties and arbitrary Exactions required on such Occasions; these various other Articles of *Gruft* are no more particularized or expected in any Treaty or *Phirmaund*, &c. than the Two Articles of Salt and Tobacco, and have been ever since the Treaty with *Serajah Dowla* carried on with the Company's *Duffuck*.

That we have acquiesced in paying Duty on the single Article of Salt, and passing it with the *Shaubundar's* Ruana, at *Calcutta*, *Dacca*, and *Luckpore*, should not now, I think, weigh with us to continue it, when our Rights are called in Question, and we are bound to support them in their full Extent; above all, as this Article is the Produce of the Company's own Lands, of *Calcutta*, *Purgumas*, *Chittagong*, *Radanapore*, *Jaloffore*, and *Bardwan*, and as it makes a considerable Branch of their Revenue, ought as much as possible to be protected and encouraged, instead of being oppressed with new Taxes, exceeding above double what has yet paid: As for the Article of Tobacco, no *Duffuck* from the Government has ever been taken, and the Duty paid on it has never been demanded till after its Arrival at *Dacca*; and

and at *Cessimbuzar* the Company's Duffucks have been always granted, and never disputed for this Article.

2d. I think therefore that the Government have no Right to demand that or any other Duties, where the Duffuck is granted, and that it should be now granted on Salt and Tobacco, as it has been hitherto for Beetle Nut, Rice, Ghee, Opium, Sugar, &c. Articles consumed in the Country as well as exported.

3d. Those *European* Inhabitants, who by the Company's Directions are not intitled to Duffucks, should not be freed from paying the Duties; yet when these are discharged for the Sale of Trade, I think a Passport or Certificate from the President might accompany the Ruanna of the *Buxfubundar*.

4th. The *English* Gomaftahs in any Part of the Three Provinces should be subject in no Manner to the Jurisdiction of the Country Government; they are not in my Opinion, more than their Principals, to be accountable to them; I believe they never were; and no Step could possibly have been taken more surely to ruin our Trade, Influence, and Respect in the Country, than acknowledging them our absolute Masters and Judges; the Company have ever protected their Gomaftahs and those of their Servants; while we have subordinate Factories, and a fixed Government here, Justice may always be had, when Complaints are well grounded, and can be proved by the Government's Dependants; nor need we be startled with these laid before us, but from the Subject, Exaggeration, and Groundlessness of most of them, conceive what a State of wretched Dependence we should fall into, were we liable to be called, upon every such like absurd Complaint preferred, to the Country Government. In those more distant Quarters, where the Company have not Factories, the Trade is generally managed by Gentlemen who have had the Approbation of the Board to go up the Country, and given Security for their good Behaviour; they may be presumed more to be depended on for determining equitably any Disputes about Points of Trade, which is all they should or need have any Connection with, than any *Zemindary* Court; an Appeal might nevertheless always lie from them to the nearest Subordinate; and when such Persons are publicly known in those Quarters, as under the Protection, and acting with the Permission and Authority of the Board, to whom they are to be accountable, they may, without any new Regulation or Innovation, carry on their Trade to the Satisfaction of the People, and without any Detriment to, or interfering with, the Collection of the Revenues.

Mr. Hastings.

My Name already appearing to the Letter proposing the Regulations which form the Substance of the President's Letter to the Nabob, it will hardly be expected of me to join in the harsh and unmerited Censure past upon them by the Members which then formed the Board: I at that Time regarded these Regulations, not as a Concession of any new Rights to the Nabob, but a Confirmation of those which he held by the Treaties in force; nor has any Thing appeared since to make me change that Opinion.

My Sentiments upon the Extent of our Duffuck, and the Privilege of our Gomaftahs, I shall fully hereafter, observing only in this Place, that the settling the Duties on the Inland Trade, at 9 per Cent. the Governor only fixed the Trade, which was before variably levied, with continual Disputes, to the great Detriment of the fair Trader; and in this he acted in strict Conformity to the plain and literal Instructions of the Board, whatever Sense they were intended to convey.

The President has so fully explained the Motives and Reasons for this Transaction, that it is needless for me to take up the Time of the Board with a Repetition of them: Upon the Whole, I declare it as my Opinion, that the Regulations in Question were calculated in the best Manner to our Trade upon a proper

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Footing, to distinguish our Right from those of the Nabob, to preserve the *English* Name from Reproach, and the Affairs of the Company from suffering by continual Disputes and Contentions in which they had no Concern.

To understand the Meaning of any Treaty, where the Expressions are doubtful or defective, Recourse should be had to the Circumstances of the Parties concerned, at the Time in which they were made; regarding the Firmann in this Light, we shall make no Scruple to pronounce that the Company could not, where they obtained that Grant from the Court of *Delhee*, understand it to extend beyond their own Trade, or include Privileges of which they could not make any Use; and which, I may add, they never dreamt of.

The Commerce in Imports and Exports ever bounded, as of Necessity it must, their Concerns in this Country, for the Encouragement of a Trade beneficial to the Country and its Revenues; the Court at that Time in its most flourishing State, and supported by wise and able Ministers, indulged the Company with the Freedom which they petitioned for from Duties; then the Trade, in such Commodities as were produced and sold in the Country, was intirely confined to the Natives; they were either farmed out where they were considerable enough to make an Article in the public Revenues, or circulated through the Province by the poorer Sort of People, to whom, whilst they afforded a Subsistence, they at the same Time added to the Income of the State by the Duties gathered upon them: Let us suppose the Company's Agents had petitioned for the Liberty of trading in these Articles without paying Duties; can it be conceived that the Government could have been so blind to its own Interest, as to have given a Privilege to Strangers which would have enabled them to monopolize the whole Trade of the Country, to impoverish the natural Subjects, and exhaust the Country of its Wealth, without making any adequate Return for it? The Privileges therefore claimed by the Company, and allowed by the Government, were originally designed by both for such a Trade only as was carried on by the former; that is, in Goods brought into the Country, or purchased in it for Exportation; in Effect, it was ever limited to that; nor can it be proved that the Duffuck was ever allowed to pass for any other, from the first Engagement of this Grant until the Death of *Seroja Dowla*: The Company, in their Standing Orders before that Time, prohibited their Servants from meddling with what we now term the Inland Trade, and name it Illicit; nor can any Difference of Power convey to us a Right from former Treaties, which we confessedly wanted before; though, since the Restoration of the Company's Privileges, we have by Degrees dealt in the Inland Trade, yet it was always with a tacit Acknowledgement of the Invalidity of our Duffuck for that Trade, having generally paid the Government a Duty thereon; and where it was attempted without, it has constantly been the Subject of Complaints and Opposition on the Part of the Nabob's Officers. I am well aware of the Objection which I have frequently heard repeated in the Course of the Debates upon this Subject, and which it may be proper in this Place to reply to; I mean, That we should not be too rigorous in calling in Question our own Privileges; but, where the Sense of a Treaty is not sufficiently clear, interpret it in such Manner as may tend to our own Advantage, leaving it to others to dispute it; and that therefore, as the Firmann gives us a general Right to trade Duty free, without mentioning any Exceptions, we should insist on a free Trade in every Thing, without Exception. Without examining this Principle, I shall only say, that if it be just at all, it can only be so where the Points contested for are of real Importance, but where they are either trivial in themselves, or have a

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pernicious

pernicious Tendency, it must be an Absurdity to insist upon them.—I must beg Leave for the first Time to distinguish between the Interest of the Company and that of Individuals, which I am afraid have been too much confounded in these Debates; that the Company will not suffer by a Restriction of the Dufftuck to foreign Merchandize is manifest; since, with that Restriction, it will answer every Purpose for which they want it. Besides, the Odium which a Monopoly so injurious to the natural Rights of the Country Merchants must unavoidably call upon the *English* Name, and the perpetual Jealousies which, from Experience, we know it to be attended with, prove, that this Privilege is in itself highly prejudicial to the real Interest as well as Honour of the Company. As they have been pleased to permit us to share with them the Benefit of the Dufftuck, we may surely content ourselves with the Enjoyment of that Privilege within the same Bounds to which they have limited themselves. To attempt to extend it beyond that, and, for the Sake of our own private Advantage, to make this a Point of Contest with a Power in Alliance with the Company, is both a Violation of Justice and a Breach of the Duty which we owe to our Employers.

My Opinion then, upon the Three first Questions before us, is, First, That we can claim no Right from the *Phirmaun*, nor, of Course, the subsequent Treaties, which were but intended as Copies of that, in the Articles regarding our Commerce, to an Exemption from Duties on any but foreign Trade; that is, in Goods imported or carried out of the Country. Secondly, That Duties ought to be paid to the Country Government on Salt, Beetle Nut, and other Articles, which are produced and sold in the Country. And, Thirdly, That of Course the Dufftuck ought not to be given for those Articles, but that they pass with a *Rowana* or Certificate from the Officers of the Customs, in the same Manner with the Goods belonging to other Merchants. The Fourth Article I deem altogether unnecessary, whether we trade in Salt with the Company's Dufftuck, or, as other Merchants, without them, the Dufftuck being a sufficient Distinction in the first Case, and the latter requiring none.

My Opinion upon the Fifth Question is, That the *English* Gomastahs, in every Part of the Three Provinces, whether in the Districts of the Nabob or of the Company, shall be subject to the Magistrate; but with this Distinction to be observed between private Gomastahs and those of the Company, that the former shall be equally accountable to the Magistrate, for any Misdemeanor, with any one of the Nabob's Subjects that shall at any Time reside in the Territory of the Company, nor enjoy any Advantages above other Merchants, but such only as the *Firmaun* gives them; viz. That their Goods shall pass Duty free wherever they have the Protection of the Dufftuck; the Magistrate shall not oppress, but assist, them in the Recovery of their just Debts, nor suffer any one to injure or oppress them; but, as the Company's Gomastahs have a weightier Charge, and are none of them situated at such a Distance from the Company's Factories, but that Complaints against them may be both easily heard and speedily redressed, it should be only permitted to the Magistrate to oppose them in the actual Commission of any Violence, or the Assumption of any Right not belonging to them; but in any Disputes with their immediate Dependants, such as the Weavers, Pykers, or Delolls, in their Service, he shall not interfere, otherwise than by assisting them in carrying their Complaints to the Presidency, or the Factories to which the Gomastahs belong, for Redress; but the Gomastah shall not therefore protect his own Dependants from any lawful Claims of the Government, nor their Persons from Justice in any criminal Cases.

This to me appears the only equitable Method for preventing any Misbehaviour in our People, or Disputes

between them and the Nabobs. If the Magistrate at any Time should abuse his Authority, the Nabob should be required, upon Proof, to dismiss him from his Office, or inflict any other Punishment suitable to the Degree of the Offence. If this Justice, so essential to the Nabob's own Interest and the Tranquillity of the Country, be refused, or from the Distance of his Residence cannot be timely obtained, we have always the Means in our Power, when such extraordinary Occasions may demand it, to vindicate our Rights, and call the Infringers of it to Justice.

From the Peculiarity of the Times, and a natural Propensity in the weaker Part of Mankind to run from one Extreme to another, it has unfortunately happened, that the Power suddenly placed in the Hands of the Nabob's Officers, for the Protection of his People, has been to extravagantly abused, as to give Occasion to a Persuasion in many, that no Power can with Safety be trusted in their Hands. As I have formerly lived amongst the Country People, in a very inferior Station, and at a Time when we were subject to the most slavish Dependence in the Government, and met with the greatest Indulgence, and even Respect, from the Zemindars and Officers of the Government, I can with the greatest Confidence deny the Justice of this Opinion; and add further, from repeated Experience, that if our People, instead of erecting themselves into Lords, and Oppressors of the Country, confine themselves to an honest and fair Trade, and submit themselves to the lawful Authority of the Government, they will be every where courted and respected, and the *English* Name, instead of becoming a Reproach, will be universally revered; the Country will reap a Benefit from our Commerce; and the Power of the *English*, instead of being made a Bugbear to frighten the poor Inhabitants into a Submission to Injury and Oppression, will be regarded by them as the greatest Blessing and Protection.

It is as impossible for any State to subsist with a divided Power as with none. Our Servants are as likely, at least, to make an ill Use of their Power as the Nabob's are, but are not so easily to be restrained. In whose Hands, therefore, can it be so properly lodged as in those of the Government, to whom it belongs? To take from them that Right, a Right which we should never suffer to be contended in our own Districts, will be to introduce Oppression, Rapine, and Anarchy, into the Country which we are engaged to protect; and whatever temporary Advantage Individuals may gain from such a Scene of Troubles, the Affairs of the Company must infallibly suffer by it, if not be involved in one common Ruin with the Country. That this Consequence may not appear too forcibly drawn, permit me to add, it has been observed, that the wisest and most permanent States have ever left to conquered Nations the Exercise of their own Laws, and by that Means insured their Subjection. The Power which we have acquired in these Provinces has reduced them into a Condition as nearly resembling a Conquest as it is for our own Interest to wish it; but if we take too ungenerous, as well as impolitic, Advantage of their Weakness, as to put it in the Power of every Banyan, who calls himself an *English* Servant, to tyrannize over the Inhabitants without Controul, this is not only to deprive them of their own Laws, but to deny them even the Benefit of any.

Mr. Cartier gives it as his Opinion, That the President's Letter to the Nabob was in every respect improper, and naturally intended, from the Concessions contained therein, to bring upon the *English* Name Discredit and real Disgrace; the late Violences, as well as Insolencies, committed by the Natives, are a certain Argument of its Impropriety, and which were clearly foreseen the very Instant the said Letter was made public; that the Hope given them of being constituted Judges



Judges and Arbitrators of all Disputes that might happen in the Intercourse of our Business, gave Cause to the many Inconveniences and Tyranny that we have lately suffered, and do suffer: The subjecting us to such a Controul would have effectually destroyed our Influence and Reputation in the Country, and would unavoidably have led us, from the manifold Oppressions we must have felt under by such Regulations taking Place, to the Necessity of taking up Arms for the Redress of those Grievances every Member of this Colony must have felt by so arbitrary a Jurisdiction: As it is, the Evil has spread wide, and has acquired such Strength, that no other Methods, I doubt, but forcible ones, will be able to remove it; that he can't think the Members of the Board gave, or intended giving, a direct Consent to the President's entering into a Treaty with the Nabob, on Points so very interesting to our Privileges, or did they imagine such a Step was any Ways necessary; but what he thinks most condemnable is, that the said Regulations, previous to the Approbation or Disapprobation of the Board, were made known to the Nabob, and the same ordered by him to his different Officers, to be carried into Execution, before such Agreement could have the Concurrence of the several Members of the Council: He is likewise of Opinion, That the said Regulations, and the said Letter to the Nabob, were in no respect agreeable to the Tenor and Spirit of our Phirmaund, and the subsequent Treaties entered into with the Nabob *Serajab Dowlah* and *Meer Jaffer*, but would have been the Means of confining our Privileges into much narrower Bounds than the Grants and Treaties are intended to restrain us in.

First, On the true Extent and Meaning of the Phirmaund, and all subsequent Treaties, Mr. *Cartier* thinks, That by the Privileges invested in us by our Phirmaund, *Hutbulhookums*, and our late Treaties, that Trade is under no Limitation whatever, either in Foreign or Inland Commodities; that the Want formerly of Power to assert the Immunities of the Phirmaund, cannot, as he imagines, be construed to an absolute and entire Deprivation of them: This Reason now no longer existing, we ought to exert our Privileges to their fullest Intent and Latitude, nor submit to the capricious Conduct and encroaching Behaviour of the Country Government.

Thirdly, On the Trade on Salt and Tobacco, he can have no Objection to the Payment of an equitable Duty, more particularly as we have hitherto, both at the Presidency and the Factories of *Dacca* and *Luckypore*, submitted to pay on One or both of those Articles; but let that be fixed at a Medium of what has been paid at the different Settlements, and furthermore to be considered as a Concession made the Nabob, and not claimed as a Right, paid as a Thing which Custom has established, and not to be confirmed by any Treaty.

Fourthly, It is allowed that the Trade in Salt and Tobacco is in every respect agreeable to our Phirmaund Privileges: He fees no Reason why a Dutystock should not be granted for those Articles as well as for all others; tho' at the same Time, as a Duty may probably be laid on those Two Articles, they should be accompanied with the Buxbunder or the Shawbunder's Receipt, to ascertain that the full Duties have been paid, and that nothing further is to be demanded on any Account.

Fifthly, As Certificates have been granted indiscriminately to the Company's Servants, as well as to the Inhabitants of *Calcutta*, he thinks the same should be continued to the latter, on their Application to the President, on producing the Buxbunder's Receipt for Duties paid; tho' at the same Time the Duty stipulated and agreed upon to be levied on these Branches of Trade, the Properties of Company's Servants, should serve as no Regulations for what may be demanded from them.

Sixthly, The Nature of the Government in every Part of *Indostan* being in all Respects oppressive and venal, and the Decision of all Causes depending more on the Ability of the Parties engaged in bribing their Judges than the Legality of them, it can scarcely be thought even equitable, that the Servants and Gomastahs in our Employ should, on any Complaint or Misdemeanor, be subject to the Indetermination. It is likewise a known Truth, that in every Dispute concerning Property and Money Matters, a Fourth Part is appropriated for the Service of the Government and Officers: This probably might not be insisted upon from us, tho' its not being so would in all Likelihood be rather prejudicial than the contrary, as the other Party might be subjected to the established Custom of the Country; which, if so, it must appear to every one what a superior Influence would be acquired on that Side; but even independent of this Custom, and should it not be expected or demanded from either Party, yet the Integrity of our proposed Judges is so little allowed of, that it would be the highest Absurdity to expect it, or even to submit in their having the least Power or Authority over our People: Should this be even permitted, it will not be Presumption to declare, that we may then begin to date the Commencement of our declining Influence in the Country, and would most certainly be productive of continual Broils should we have Spirit sufficiently remaining to resent the Injustice and Indignities we must in such Situation be exposed to.

Sixthly, Tho' he thinks it improper to allow the Officers of the Government any Kind of Controul over our Gomastahs, yet he is far from withholding their Actions should be uncontrollable: Let the Person injured, if not in our Employ, lay his Complaint before the Magistrate of the District he is in, to be by him forwarded with the Complaint to the President, or Chiefs and Council, of the different Factories as be most near the District where the Complaint comes from; when the Gomastah is complained against shall be ordered down to justify himself as to the Accusation lodged against him: Should Complaints arise in Parts distant from either the Presidency or the Factories, he thinks a Confidence might be reposed in the Gentlemen employed as our Agents in those Parts, as they are Men of Character, and their Appointments being approved by the Members of the Board, and each depended upon to settle the Complaints brought against their own Gomastahs: Should this not be approved, he can only propose the Method pointed out as to the Determination of those Disputes that may happen in the Neighbourhood of the different Settlements, or by an Aumeen, properly authorized to make an Enquiry into them. It is necessary we should become our own Judges in all Disputes in which we may possibly be concerned; most true it is, it has not the most equitable Appearance; but every Gentleman must be convinced how highly essential such a Privilege is for the supporting our Influence, and avoiding Chicanery and Perplexities of a *Moorish* Court; and he can't help thinking, but a Power so lodged in our Hands is liable to less Abuses, and will be exercised with the strictest Impartiality, notwithstanding we may in some Respects be interested in the Decision of the Cause.

#### Mr. Billers's.

The First Part of the President's Letter to the Nabob, contains the Agreement for our paying a Duty of 9 per Cent. on all Articles for Inland Trade; the Phirmaund, and subsequent Treaties, are certainly the only Guides that can enable us to form a proper Judgment on this Subject; and having given the greatest Attention to them, when read at the Board last Council Day, I think they give us an undoubted Right to trade, Duty free, in all Commodities whatever, either for Foreign or Inland Trade, upon the Consideration

of our paying Annually the Piskusk therein stipulated in Lieu thereof. These being my Sentiments of the Meaning of the Phirmaund, &c. it follows of Course, that I must disapprove of the President's entering into an Agreement which so evidently deprives us of one of the greatest Advantages we have gained thereby, and particularly of his having done it on the bare Supposition that it would be approved by the other Members of the Board; however, as the Nabob's Revenues would suffer, were we to carry on our Commerce of every Kind without paying any Duties, I think it would be proper that some reasonable Consideration should be made him for the Privilege of the Inland Trade; but that he should at the same Time be made sensible that he is by no Means intitled thereto, and that it is entirely a Mark of Favour.

With regard to the Regulations the President has laid down for the Determination of all Disputes which may happen between our Agents or Gomastahs and the Country Inhabitants, it is well known that those People cannot confine themselves within the Limits of the Authority with which they are invested: The many daring Insolencies and Oppressions which have been committed by the Nabob's Officers, ever since his Orders for enforcing those Regulations were first issued, are evident Proofs of the Truth of this Observation, and sufficiently point out the Impropriety of them, without the Use of further Arguments. Upon the Whole, I think the President might be desired to recall this Letter, least, by falling into the Hands of any of the Nabob's Successors, it might hereafter be used by them as a Plea for the same Purpose for which it was now designed.

I have already declared my Opinion of the First Query proposed, in giving my Sentiments on that Part of the President's Letter which related to the 9 per Cent. Duty: With regard to the Second and Third, I think the Company's Duttyuck should be always granted equally for the Inland, as well as the Foreign Trade, when it has been settled whether we shall pay any and what Duty, as it will effectually cut off all Subject of Dispute, by putting it out of the Power of the Officers to make any Objection to the Passage of the Goods; and that none but Company's Servants should have the President's Passport for the Salt which may have paid the Government's Duty at Hugly.

As to any Disputes which may happen between our Gomastahs or Agents and the People of the Country, I think the only Scheme for the Determination of them will be to oblige the Person who may think himself aggrieved to apply for Redress to the nearest Factory, whatever Distance may be from the Place where the Dispute happened, and if he is not content with their Decision, he may appeal to the Governor and Council.

Wm. Billers.

Mr. Balson thinks the President's Letter to the Nabob, detrimental to the Interest of the and the Nation in general; because, by a forced and groundless Explanation, it invalidates the Privileges granted by the King's Phirmaund, and sundry Husbhookooms, and confirmed by the Treaties with *Serajab Dowlab* and *Meer Jaffer*; such an Explanation coming from the Chief of the *English* may give great Advantage to Nabobs, and to other *European* Nations, against us, in future Negotiations which we may happen to have with them. By this Letter also, the Advantage of coining in the Mints of *Patna* and *Dacca* is given up, at the same Time the *Calcutta* Mint rendered of little or no Service; for by our being prohibited from using any Authority over the Shrofs, the Currency of Rupees coined at *Calcutta* will be stoppt in most Parts of the Country; and this is actually the Case at present at *Cossimbazar* and *Murshidabad*: He was much surprized to see those Advantages, which were so strenuously con-

tended for many Years together, given up without any Public Consideration: He thinks also the said Letter tends to destroy the national Influence in this Country, and to bring us into Contempt; because the Form of Address, and several Expressions, are unbecoming, submissive, and condescending; but chiefly, because it submits the *English* Agents, not excepting the Company's Factories, to the Jurisdiction of the Nabob's Officers, which would immediately put a Stop to great Part of the Private Trade, and would furnish the Nabob with continual Pretences for subjecting the Company to the same Oppressions which they underwent before the Rupture with *Serajab Dowlab*, whenever he should think himself in a Condition to proceed to such Lengths; he therefore thinks we should insist on the Nabob's sending back the said original Letter.

In Answer to Question the 1st,

He thinks by the Phirmaund, Husbhookooms, and subsequent Treaties, the Company, and, under them, their Servants, have a clear Right to trade in every Article, whether for Foreign or Inland Trade, which is right, it is our Duty to preserve entire and indisputed; and that the Arguments used by the Gentlemen on the other Side of the Question, to prove the contrary, do really prove no more than that former Nabobs had the Power and Means of hindering us from enjoying the King's Grant in its full Extent.

In Answer to Question the 2d,

He thinks we should acquiesce in paying the same Duty on Salt and Tobacco that have been paid since *Meer Jaffer's* coming to the Subah, but that the same should not be agreed to by any Public Deed or Writing; and here he thinks proper to remark, that the Salt Trade being formerly farmed by *Caja Wazzed* for an inconsiderable Sum, could be no great Advantage to the Nabob's Revenue; and by Means of the Monopoly he allowed the Mahers and Dealers at the first Hand, a very small Price, from 25 to 30 Rupees per 100 Maunds; but since the *English* have had a Part of this Trade, the Price of Salt has risen to 70 or 80 Rupees per 100 Maunds at the Aurungs; from hence any Person acquainted with the Country must see, that from the *English* trading in this Article the Nabob has received Benefit, not suffered Loss; his Complaints on this Head therefore proceed not from any real Grievance.

In Answer to Question the 3d and 4th,

He thinks Duttyucks should be allowed to the Company's Servants in future for such Articles, but not others.

In Answer to Question the 5th,

He thinks the *English* Agents should not be subjected to the Authority of the Country Government.

In Answer to Question the 6th,

He thinks the Business may be carried on as it has been before, without any ill Consequences; however, as a Regulation concerning Disputes is required, he thinks the Officers of the Government may enquire into such Matters, and send Reports of them to the nearest *English* Factory, or to the Presidency, as they may chuse.

Major Carnac's.

At the Consultation of the 17th January, Major Carnac concurred in Opinion with the Whole of the Gentlemen then at the Board, on the Regulations established by the President and *Meer Jaffer*, and his Reasons for so doing, were, First, That he deems highly dishonourable our being thereby subjected to the *Moorish* Jurisdiction; as this is acknowledging a Dependency on the Country Government, the Deliverance from which he had ever regarded as the great Happiness resulting from our First Resolution; not can any but iniquitous Decisions be expected from Courts of such notorious Partiality.

Secondly;

Secondly, Major Carnac deems dishonourable, as also extremely prejudicial to our Trade, the agreeing to the Duty upon all Articles of Inland Trade, without Distinction, none of which were ever before subjected to the Duties to the Establishment of *Meer Jaffer*, except Salt and Tobacco; and this must have been through Condescension on our Part, as our having an universal Freedom of Trade is so particularly specified, both by our Phirmaunds and Treaties, as not to leave the least Open for cavelling. Major Carnac, Thirdly, deems it a dishonourable Concession (and the Gentlemen at Patna have shewn it will be detrimental to the Company) the yielding up the Coinage in the Mint of Patna, to which he believes we are intitled from our Phirmaunds; but exclusive thereof we had a very good Claim from our having constantly enjoyed that Privilege during the Time of the preceding Nabob. The Major, in Consequence, thinks the Letter from the President to the Nabob, containing the said Regulations, should be withdrawn.—Thus much being premised, answers, on the Part of Major Carnac, the First and Fifth Questions.

With respect to the Second and Third Questions, Major Carnac is of Opinion, that whatever Rights we may have, from our Phirmaunds, and our different Treaties, should be insisted on; and therefore, that the Company's Duffucks should be granted for all Commodities, without Exception; and that no Duties whatever shall be paid to the Nabob, but in lieu therefore, a Duty be levied upon Duffucks, for the Benefit of the Company; however, should the Board think this would occasion a great Diminution of the Nabob's Revenue, he hopes they will not consent to any other Duties, but the Continuance of those upon Salt and Tobacco, the former at the *Houghley* Rate, and the other according as has been paid at *Dacca*; and that in such Case, it will be clearly explained to the Nabob, that it is pure Indulgence from us, and which we may retract at Pleasure.—The Company's Duffucks, nevertheless, equally given for Salt and Tobacco, as for all other Articles of Trade.

If it be determined to make a Compliment to the Nabob of a Duty upon Salt, the other Gentlemen of the Board are the best Judges how far the Privilege of trading therein ought to be extended, and whether it should be confined to the Company's Servants or not. Major Carnac begs Leave to wave giving any Answer to the Fourth Question, not being sufficiently Master of the Subject.

That the Black People in our Employ are guilty of great Irregularities, and commit many Abuses under the Sanction of our Authority, has been a frequent Subject of Complaint; and it certainly behoves us to seek every possible Remedy thereto, except such a One as has been proposed, which is worse than the Disease, there can be no Difficulty at the Places which are in the Neighbourhood of any of our Factories, the Chiefs and Council whereof should be empowered to enquire into the Conduct of the *English* Gomastahs; and we are not to doubt that the Decisions will be fair and equitable: In the Places at a Distance from our Factories, such as *Rangoor*, *Gualpore*, &c. there are generally some *English* Gentlemen of Character resident; and then in Cases of Complaint, should be directed by the Board to take Informations upon the Spot, and to spare no Cost or Pains to get at the Truth; which should be transmitted either to the nearest Factory, or to *Calcutta*; and upon Conviction of any Gomastah of Misbehaviour, the most exemplary Punishment should be inflicted, in order to deter others from the like Practices.

Mr. Amyat.

Mr. Vanfittart in his Minute of the 1st of February, complains of the harsh and indecent Opinion of the Board, on the 17th of January, against his Treaty entered into with the Nabob, and that his Negotiations therein did not merit such Treatment from us.

We are unanimous on the Regulations being detrimental and dishonourable, which every Article con-

tained therein, I think, clearly denounced.—The Government formerly must have understood our Phirmaund gave us a full and extensive Trade in every Thing, without Distinction; and as far as our Gentlemen were in Capacity to carry on the Inland Trade, they practised for many Years; but particular Articles being farmed out to the Government to particular Persons, our trading therein gave Umbrage, and Governor *Stackhouse*, I think, was obliged to give a Mutchulka, that the *English* would desist from further dealing in Salt, Silk, and Beetle Nut; this was at a Time they could not maintain by Force the *Dilly* Grants, so, through Necessity, complied with; an Order at this Time would have had the same Effect; but they obliged the then Governor to invalidate the Phirmaund, by giving this Mutchulka, which shewed they thought our Right good, and by Compulsion got this Paper to overset our future Pretensions, and has been ever since the Argument against us, therefore detrimental, and dishonourable. Mr. Vanfittart renewing this Mutchulka, the adding an additional Duty to what we have already paid through a Condescension, is doubtless detrimental; the subjecting us to the *Moorish* Laws, and which, to our Honour be it known, in the worst of Times we never were; but now, not even an Appeal to the Nabob or the Council is mentioned; this, doubtless, is both detrimental and dishonourable: How prejudicial, partial, and unjust the Nature of their Courts, Custom, and Laws, are so well known to you all, Gentlemen, it's needless for me to take up your Time in giving you my Sentiments in full thereon; the mentioning that our Servants, Gomastahs, &c. shall not carry on Trade by Oppressions, &c. are dishonourable Terms to be inserted in a public Treaty; surely the *English* Justice and Honour was sufficient for the Government to be satisfied, that we should surely chafire any of them who dared to prostitute our Name, by any illicit Action, without making it an Article for them to do it: Many Complaints have appeared, but none proved, and I flatter myself none will, of any Consequence; the Nabob's Orders in circulating Mr. Vanfittart's Treaty, are dishonourable to us, and in a Manner an Act of Hostility, bidding us open Defiance.

The foregoing were my Reasons for concurring with the rest of the Board on the 17th of January, in censuring the Governor's Proceedings: And I am also to remind you, that we thought he had also been guilty of a Breach of our Privilege, in acting without our Consent; and I still think so; for I solemnly declare, I never suspected he could desire such an independent Power, on so material or national a Concern, or imagine the rest of the Gentlemen would have been more explicit and peremptory in their Letters to him; nor is it consistent with Reason, any Council should give such Powers.

Doubtless, Mr. Vanfittart will ask, What Regulations we wanted to have settled with the Nabob, which we hoped from his Influence with the Nabob? for he seems to know no one else would be such as tended to our Advantage, and not to his Prejudice; for if Trade went freely on, we would readily acquiesce in paying Duties as had hitherto been collected; but the Removal of several Vexations we had lately laboured under, was the Point we wanted to see happily effectual; and our Goods were certified to the *English* Property, not to meet with any Impediments.

I now come to the first Question. The Nabob and Mr. Vanfittart seem to think, and assert, we have not a Liberty to an unconstrained Trade. We have, Gentlemen, carefully perused all our Phirmaunds, Treaties, &c. and I think it clearly appears to me we have; therefore, as the Nabob wants to invalidate those Grants, we ought to have them properly explained to him; and insist on our Parts to the utmost of the Company's Pre-rogative, and demand the Treaty back and destroy it.

To the Second, I am to say, Since the Nabob has wanted to impose on us a Breach of our Liberties, we should

should not pay any Duty on any Thing, but support our Rights: The Company may want to trade in these Articles, when we consider their vast Tract of Lands and Production thereof, especially Salt, on which Article they raise a very large Duty themselves.

To the 3d and 4th Questions: Duffucks cannot be granted to any but Company's Servants, unless it be for such Goods produced upon the Company's Lands, and paid their Duties; but Certificates should to such as have paid the Nabob's any where, on a proper Ruwana being shewn to the Governors or any Chief, Satisfaction that the Nabob's Customs have been duly discharged.

To the 5th and 6th, The Servants and Gomastahs of the *English* should not on any Account be under the least Constraint of the Government; but begs Leave to defer saying any Thing further on this Head for the present; however, to regulate the Disputes that may happen betwixt them and the Country Government, and indeed among themselves, till such Time as he has heard it properly discussed at the Board, where the mutual Advantage of the Country and ourselves will be impartially considered and deliberated on.

Major *Adams* does not think the Agreement made with the Nabob, as contained in the Governor's Letter to him, calculated to answer the End proposed by it; viz. To settle Things on such a Footing as may prevent future Disputes with the Country Government, of whose Justice Mr. *Vansittart* seems in that Treaty to have entertained a much better Opinion than their subsequent Conduct shews they deserve.

In Answer to the 1st Question.

Major *Adams* is of Opinion, That by the *Phirmaund* and subsequent Treaties, particularly the Second Article of that with *Serajab Dowlah*, the *English East India Company* are entitled to carry on any Kind of Trade Duty free, and in any Part of the Three Provinces of *Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa*.

To the 3d,

That the above-mentioned *Phirmaund* and Treaties entitle the said Company to carry on their Trade, free from any Duties; but that to prevent, as much as possible, any Disturbances in the Country, such Duties as have been collected on any Species of Trade, since the last Revolution, should be continued. In Answer to the 3d and 4th Questions, Major *Adams* is of Opinion, That as the Privileges in the above-mentioned *Phirmaund*, &c. were granted to the *English East India Company*, they, and their Representatives here, are the proper Judges for what, and to whom, Duffucks should be granted; and as he looks upon the above Questions to be a private Nature, begs to be excused giving his Opinion upon them.

In Answer to the 5th Question, Major *Adams* thinks that the Experience we have had of the tyrannical and rapacious Disposition of the Officers of the Country Government almost renders this Question unnecessary; however, as his Opinion is required with the rest of the Gentlemen at the Board, his Duty to the Public obliges him to declare, That he thinks that it should by no Means be allowed.

To the 6th and last Question, That wherever any considerable Trade is carried on, however far distant, a Company's Servant should reside, invested with full Power to enquire into any Disputes, and punish the Delinquents; and that when the Trade carried on is not of Consequence sufficient to require a Resident, upon any Complaints against Gomastahs, or *English* Factors, the Persons complained of should be immediately summoned to the nearest *English* Factory, as well as all the Evidences against them; and that the Chief of such Factory, with his Council, should be empowered to inflict the severest Punishment on such Gomastahs and Factors, if found guilty; and that no Expence should be spared to bring Offenders to Justice.—But should the Complaint be found to be false or frivolous,

the Complainant should pay all the Costs and Damages.

The Regulations contained in my Letter (A) to the Nabob of the 26th of *December*, are such as appears to me to be conformable to the true Intent and Meaning of the *Phirmaund* and subsequent Treaties, considered with the Company's Orders relative to the Trade of their Servants, and particularly the 24th and 29th Paragraphs of their Letter of the 27th *June* 1748.

I am aware that the Abuses, which some of the Nabob's Officers have exercised, upon the Appearance of these Regulations, will be urged as an Objection to them; but this is arguing by Consequences; and I answer, That those, or whatever other Regulations may be proposed, will sometimes be abused by both Parties, especially on their first Establishment; and the only Remedy for this Evil is, to punish all Servants of ours who shall break through Rules, and insist on the Nabob's doing the same: Although some Men are so licentious as to break through all Laws, it is not a Reason why Laws should be abolished.

But to proceed to the particular Articles objected to: First, it is said, That the *Inland Trade*, that is the Trade in Salt, and other Articles produced in One Part of this Country, and sent to another Part of the same Country for Sale and Consumption, shall not be carried on with the Company's Duffuck, but shall go with the Duffuck of the Country Government, after paying them a Duty of Nine per Cent. The *Phirmaund* says, That whatever Goods or Merchandise the Gomastahs of the *English* Company shall bring into any Port or Place of the Province, by Sea or Land, or carry out, shall be free of Duty: For my Part, I can understand this no otherwise, than that the Goods they shall bring in from foreign Parts may be transported to any Part of the Province, by Sea or Land, Duty free; and the Goods they purchase in any Part of the Province may in like Manner be carried out. This I imagine to be all the Company asked; and it is not to be supposed more was granted: By such a Trade, the Country reaps the Benefit of the Goods and Money imported; but all that is gained by us in trafficking from Place to Place in the Country, in Articles of its own Produce, is in Truth so much lost to the Country.

The subsequent Treaties confirm the Privileges of the *Phirmaund*; and particularly the Second Article of the Treaty with *Serajab Dowlah* declares, That all Goods going to, or coming from, any Place, by Land or Water, with the Company's Duffuck, shall be free. It remains still to be limited by *Phirmaund*, and the Company's Orders, for what Occasions the Duffuck shall be granted; and I think it behoves us greatly to take Care they are not granted for any Purpose beyond the Intention of the *Phirmaund*, and to answer those Ends the Company had in View when they put themselves to the Expence of applying for it. With respect to the Power of our Gomastahs, the *Phirmaund* says, That in every Place where they buy or sell, the Officers of the Government shall assist them in their lawful Demands; and every Merchant, Weaver, or other Person, upon whom the *English* Gomastahs shall have a just Demand, the Officers of the Government shall oblige them to pay it, and suffer no One to oppress the Gomastahs; and if any Servant of the Company's, being in their Debt, should run away, the Officers of the Government shall take him up, and deliver him to the Chief of the Factory.

The Nabob *Jaffer Ali Cawn*, in his general Sanad, 1757, confirms all the *Phirmaund* Privileges; and adds, That the Company may buy or sell without employing a *Banyan*, or Broker, and that the Officers of the Government shall assist them in all their just Demands: Nothing here can be said to give our Gomastahs Power to decide their own Causes, or make Use of any Force of their own; but they are to apply to the Officers of the Government, and obtain Redress through their Means.

As to the Coinage, there is an Order, granting the Company

Company Permission to coin at the King's Mint, at *Carimabad*; and, in case it can be done without Loss to the King's Revenue, Three Days in the Week are to be set apart for the *English* Company's Bullion; but there is no particular Indulgence. As to the Rate of Coinage, they are to pay the same Mint Chevegs as other Merchants; and this is all the Nabob desired, as I mentioned in my Answer to *Nobi Trois* Complaints; of which Answer I gave Mr. *Ellis* a Copy; besides, I think this Privilege now unnecessary, as we have a Mint of our own, in which we may coin the Rupees of *Dacca* and *Paina*, as we do those of *Murshabadabad*. With regard to making Toffals or Salt Pans in *Sunderbund*, I confess my Letter to the Nabob does not fully express what I intended; I meant, that we ought not to take away the Grounds which other Merchants have cleared, nor the Workmen; which, as appears by my Letters to the Chiefs of *Chittagong*, which I delivered to the Nabob at the same Time, they have heard. And as to the Trading by our Gomastahs with the Mountaineers, who come with Cotton to *Rangamattay*; if it has been customary for that Article to be farmed out by the Country Government, and it is from that only the Revenue proceeds, I think we have no Right to over-rule that Custom. Any Innovations to the Prejudice of the Revenues of the Country Government, and the Exclusion of the Country Merchants from that Share of the Trade which they have long inherited, I think, should be avoided, as such Proceedings must render us universally the Object of Jealousy and Ill Will.

To the proposed Questions I therefore say, First, That I think we have not a Right, by Phirmaund and subsequent Treaties, to carry on the Inland Trade, or the Trade from Place to Place in the Country, in Commodities produced in the Country; but that we have a Right to carry on all other Trade Custom-free.

Secondly. That I think Duties might be paid to the Country Government on Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and all other Articles of Inland Trade; and that a Grant should be obtained from the Nabob, confirming to us a Right to carry on that Trade upon those Conditions, so that it may not hereafter be disputed.—I mean, that Duties should be paid to the Country Government upon Articles produced in the Country, sent from Place to Place in the Country, for Sale and Consumption there; but when sent to *Calcutta*, for Consumption or Exportation, they should go with the Company's Duffuck, and pay no Duties to the Country Government; in such Case, the Country has its Advantage in the Vent given to their Manufactories or Produce by the Trade of this Settlement, and the Company receive the Customs; but on the Inland Trade we pay no Duties at all, unless we pay to the Country Government, and yet that Trade will afford Duties better than any other.

Thirdly and Fourthly. I think the Company's Duffuck should not be granted for any Article of Inland Trade; but that Certificates should be granted by the Governor of *Calcutta*, or the Chief of any Factory, to accompany the Duffuck of the Country Government; and that such Certificates should be granted equally to Company's Servants; any other Licence *English* Merchants who have first duly paid the Government Duties, and got their Duffuck.

Fifthly and Sixthly. I think the *English* Gomastahs should not be under the Controul of the Officers of the Country Government, at those Aurungs which are under the Charge of any of the subordinate Factories; but, in Case of any Complaint against them, the Officers of the Country Government shall apply to the Chief of the Factory for Redress; and in case the Gomastah has a Dispute with, or Demand upon, any of the Country People (not the Weavers or other immediate Servants of the Company) he shall apply to the Officers of the Go-

vernment for Redress; and if the Officer of the Government neglects or refuses to grant it, the Gomastahs shall then make his Complaint to the Chief of the Factory, who shall require, and, if necessary, exact, an immediate Compliance, giving a full Account of the Matter to the Board.

But at those Aurungs which are not under the Management of any of the Company's Factories, but only some Particulars have their Agents or Gomastahs, those, I think, such an Authority cannot be trusted in their Hands, nor indeed is it possible, as there may be several different Gomastahs in One Place who have all an equal Right to Authority; I think they should apply to the Country Government for Redress on all Occasions; and if the Officers of the Government do not grant them the Satisfaction the Matter requires, the Gomastah may then make his Complaint to his Principal, and he to the Board, who will insist on the necessary Reparation for all unreasonable Losses: I do not, however, mean, that in case of Complaint against an *English* Gomastah at such Place, the Officer of the Country Government shall have Authority to seize the Gomastah, stop his Goods, or interrupt his Business; but he shall give him Notice of the Complaint, and recommend to him to get it settled; and in case the Gomastah refuses or neglects to give such Satisfaction as shall appear to the Government's Officer to be reasonable, he may then transmit the Complaint to the Governor of *Calcutta*. I see nothing in the Firman, or subsequent Treaties, which forbids the Officers of the Government from doing themselves Justice on such Occasions; but yet, the Nature of the People is such, that it would be dangerous to admit it; of which their present violent Proceedings is a sufficient Proof.

The Opinions having been all read at the Board, the Sum of the Answers to the several Questions stand as follows:

To the First Question,

the Affirmative, Ten Voices.

In the Negative, with respect to the Inland Trade, Two.

To the Second,

In the Affirmative, Seven.

In the Negative, Five.

To the Third,

In the Affirmative, Nine.

In the Negative, Two.

Major *Adams* silent.

The Fourth Question, being altered by the Determination of the Second, should stand us;

"As it is determined that Duties should be allowed

"on certain Articles, Whether Certificates shall

"be granted to those who pay that Duty, but

"are not Company's Servants?"

and it being accordingly put, the Sum of the Answers stand as follows:

In the Affirmative, Messrs. *Hay*, *Cartier*, *Anyatt*, and the President—Four Voices.

In the Negative, Messrs. *Watts*, *Marrriott*, *Jobnstone*, *Hastings*, *Billers*, and *Batson*—Six Voices.

Major *Carnac* and *Adams* silent.

To the Fifth and Sixth Questions, the Opinion of all the Board, excepting Mr. *Hastings*, imports, That the *English* Gomastahs shall not be under any actual Controul of the Officers of the Country Government, but be restrained by such Regulations as may be laid down.

As it is the Opinion of the Majority of the Board, That a Consideration ought to be paid to the Nabob on certain Articles of the Inland Trade, the Members from the Subordinats are asked, What Duties they have hitherto paid, and on what Articles?

Fort William Consultation, 5th March 1763.

**T**AKING now into Consideration the necessary Regulations for restraining our Agents and Gomastahs from interfering with any Affairs of the Country Government, injuring the People, or being injured by them, and for deciding of Disputes which may arise between them;

It is Agreed,

First, That at all those Aurungs which are adjacent to, or under the Management of, the Subordinate Factories, the Gomastahs, in case of being injured by any of the Officers of the Government, or their Dependants, shall first make their Application for Redress in Writing to the Officer of the Government residing on the Spot, from whom if he does not receive immediate Satisfaction, he shall send his Complaint to the Chief of the nearest Factory, who shall be empowered to take Cognizance of the same, and demand or exact, if necessary, the Satisfaction which the Case may require: But that it is to be understood, in respect of Weavers, Pykars, and all others who receive Advances of Money for Goods to be provided, or are indebted for Goods bought, the Gomastahs shall retain their Power as usual, to call such Debtors to Account: That, on the other Hand, where the Government's People shall have Reason to complain against *English* Gomastahs or Agents, shall give the said Agent or Gomastah Notice of the Complaint in Writing, requiring and recommending to him to settle it in an amicable and equitable Manner; and in case the Agent or Gomastah refuses or neglects to settle it in such a Manner as shall appear reasonable to the Government's Officer, he shall then transmit an Account of it to the Chief of the nearest *English* Factory, and deliver a Copy of the said Account to the Gomastah; and the Chief of the Factory is hereby required strictly to examine into the Affair, and decide it according to Justice, giving a Copy of his Determination to the Officer of the Government who made the Complaint. That the Gentlemen of the Subordinates shall keep a Register of such Com-

plaints, with the Decisions passed on them; a Copy whereof shall be forwarded monthly to the Presidency.

Secondly, With respect to the distant Places where Trade is carried on, such as *Rungpore*, *Purnab*, *Gual Parah*, *Rangamatty*, there is at present no Resident on the Part of the Company; but at *Rungpore* a Provision of Silk is made by a Gomastah from *Coffimbuzar* Factory; which Provision, it is hoped, may be increased and improved by the Care of a covenanted Servant. At the same Time, the Situation of this Place is such as will be convenient for examining the Complaints, and deciding the Disputes which may arise in most of those Places.

Agreed, therefore, That the Addition of a Senior Servant be made to the Council at *Coffimbuzar*, and appointed Resident at *Rungpore*.

That the Order forbidding our Servants or Dependants from holding of Lands, Gunges, Rents, or Employments of any Kind, under the Country Government, shall be again repeated.

That such, however, as have inherited Talooks, from Purchase, or other good Right, shall not be obliged to give them up, but hold them as other Talookdars in the Country; being informed once for all, that, in respect to such Rents held from the Government, they are not to avail themselves of our Protection to invest them with any particular Privileges.

That such Complaints as have already been made, and transmitted to the several Subordinates, shall be enquired into and decided, conformable to the above Regulation, and that such as have not yet, shall now be forwarded to the proper Subordinate for that Purpose.

Agreed, in Consequence of the above-mentioned Resolution, That Mr. *Lyon* be appointed Third of the Council at *Coffimbuzar*, and Resident at *Rungpore*.

*Henry Van Sittart,*  
*W<sup>o</sup> Billers,*  
*Rand<sup>o</sup> Marriott,*  
*H. Wais.*

Fort William Consultation, 7th March 1763.

**R**ECEIVED Two Letters from the Nabob, dated the 26th of *February*, in answer to those wrote to him by the President, in Consultation the 15th *February*.

The same being now read at the Board, it appears, that in One of them he contains his Answer with respect to Trade, in the Three following Demands or Proposals.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated the 12<sup>th</sup> *Sabaan*, or 26th of *February*; received the 7th March 1763.

Three Demands which I formerly put to you I now again repeat: The First is, From the Beginning until now the Nazim of *Bengal* corresponded with the Governor of *Calcutta*, just as I have been acquainted with you, my Friend, and am now acquainted with you, and not having a single Word of Correspondence with the rest of the Board.

The Second is, *viz.* I formerly represented to you, that the Company's Trade has been fixed Time immemorial; at this present, besides the Company's Trade,

the Gomastahs of the *English* Gentlemen have set up the Trade of Salt, Tobacco, dried Fish, Timber, &c. and make Purchase of the Country People with Force and Extortion, and are continually contriving unjust Disputes and Wranglings with my Officers; so that the Poor, the Inhabitants, the Merchants, and Manufacturers of my Country are oppressed, and both you and myself are troubled with unjust Vexations. Now I say also, that your Gomastahs are to trade as in Customs in the Merchandizes imported and exported, which has been the Practice in this Country; and are to refrain from those Articles of Trade which perplex the Revenues due to my Administration, and are a Cause of Disputes, and be the Ruin of the Inhabitants and poor People.

The Third is, Whether your Excellency's Will is, at all Events, to commit the Expences of the Army, and Management of the Country and his Majesty's Revenues, to me; and your own Gomastahs are to carry on those Branches of Trade which were never practised in the Country; and my Country is to be oppressed, under Pretences of Trade, and the Officers of my Government

vernment are to have no Concern in the Affairs of the Administration, or be allowed to say a Word.

In the other there appears throughout a general Disinclination to give us any Satisfaction for the Interruption and ill Usage which we have received from *Mahomed Aly*, and other Officers of the Government: and that both his Letters seem, upon the Whole, rather an Evasion than an Answer to the President's Representations.

Agreed therefore, That a Letter be immediately wrote to him by the President, acquainting him with this our Opinion of his Letters, and giving him a full Account of what has been hitherto resolved on by the Board, in Consequence of the Phirmaund, and other public Orders of the Court, and of the subsequent Treaties, which have all been referred to, and strictly examined; and by the Tenor of which the Board are determined to abide.

That Copies of all those Phirmaunds, Hufbulhookums, and Treaties, together with the Regulations which we have now resolved on, will be sent to him by Messrs. *Amyatt* and *Hay*, and whom we shall depute from the Board to explain to him more fully the Injustice of those Rights and Pretensions, and settle the Rules for levying the Custom, which we have agreed shall be paid. That with respect to the Complaints already made, we do insist on Justice against all those Officers of the Government who may be proved guilty of the Obstructions and Extortions laid to their Charge, and that Reparation shall be made for the Losses occasioned thereby: That, on the other Hand, all the Complaints made by his Officers, in different Parts of the Country, against *English* Agents or Gomastahs, have been referred to the Examination of the Gentlemen of the Factories nearest to those Places from whence the Complaints have come; and whatever Injustice it may appear they have committed, we shall be particularly careful to cause them to make amends for.

Mr. *Johnstone* moves, That a Letter be now wrote by the Board to the Nabob, in Answer to the First of his Three Demands, explaining to him the Powers of the Council, that it is with them that in Fact he acts, although their Opinion is transmitted through the Channel of the President; that therefore he should consider them in the first Degree:—Further, that in it the Governor's Letter, containing the Regulations, should be re-demanded; and that the Letter now sent should be signed by the Board, and sealed with the Company's Seal.

The Secretary being directed to collect the Opinions of the Board on this Motion of Mr. *Johnstone's*, the several Members delivered the same as follows:

Mr. *Watts* is of Opinion, That a Paragraph should be inserted in the Letter to be wrote to the Nabob, explaining to him the Powers of the Board; and that the Letter sent by Mr. *Vanstuart* to the Nabob should be demanded back as from the Board, but that the Letter now sent be forwarded under the President's Seal.

Mr. *Marriott* is of the same Opinion with Mr. *Watts*. Mr. *Hay* thinks the Explanation regarding the Powers of the Council should be made to the Nabob in a public Letter, agreeable to Mr. *Johnstone's* Motion; but that a Demand for the Letter, containing the Regulations, should be made in a Letter under the President's Seal.

The Company plainly declare their Intention, that all Correspondence with the Country Powers should be carried on through the Channel of the Governor; and as an Alteration of this Custom will subject the Nabob,

who has not been used to such a Method, nor can be a Judge of the Propriety of it, to great Perplexities, and tend to create a Breach between us, I object to any Letter being wrote to the Nabob but with the President's Seal.

As to an Explanation of the Powers of the Board, the Nabob, to my Knowledge, is well acquainted with them, nor is such an Information in any wise necessary.

It is also unnecessary to demand back the Governor's Letter to the Nabob, will of course be annulled by the new Regulations.

Messrs. *Cartier* and *Billers* are of the same Opinion with Mr. *Watts*.

Mr. *Batson* agrees with Mr. *Johnstone* in Opinion, That the Authority of the Board should be asserted, and the Governor's written Agreement be demanded back; and that it is the Interest of the People, that the Correspondence should be carried on by the Board.

Major *Carnac* is of Opinion, That the Nabob does not, or will not, understand the Powers of the Board, and therefore they ought to be so explained to him as to admit of no Disputes; which cannot be done any Way so effectually as by a Letter under the public Seal, as proposed by Mr. *Johnstone* in his Minute; and that in the same Letter the Governor's, containing the Regulations, should be demanded back.

Mr. *Amyatt* is of Mr. *Watts's* Opinion.

Major *Adams* is of Opinion, That the Nabob's Letters should be answered by the President, in the Name of the Board, under his own Seal, which, with the Purport of Letter, will sufficiently convince the Nabob that the Powers is lodged in the Majority of the Council; and that he thinks the demanding the Letter will more properly become Part of the Instructions to Messrs. *Amyatt* and *Hay*.

The President observes, That he has already explained to the Nabob, more than once, the Power of the Board, and that he acted, in his own Opinion, by the Powers of the Board when he wrote the Letter in Question; but that as the Nabob affects to be insensible of the Powers of the Board, and, instead of complying with the Agreement, endeavours to make the worst Use possible of the Letter, he thinks he should be wrote to, in the Terms proposed by Mr. *Johnstone*, but that it should be wrote in the usual Manner, through the Channel of the President, as any other Method is contrary to the Company's Standing Orders, as well as detrimental to their Affairs.

The Majority of the Board being of Mr. *Watts's* Opinion;

Ordered,

That Two additional Paragraphs, expressing the Sense thereof, be added to the Letter which is above directed to the Nabob by the President:—That the whole Letter be drawn up by the Secretary, from the Resolutions of Council, and, when approved by the Members, be sent to the Translator, with Directions to render it into *Persian*, applying to the President for the Moonshy, who usually writes the Letters for that Purpose.

In Conformity to the Resolution contained in the above Letter,

Messrs. *Amyatt* and *Hay* be deputed to the Nabob with full Instructions, agreeable to the Resolutions of Council; and that they do carry along with them a Person who shall afterwards be Resident at the Durbar, to transact such Business as must necessarily occur.

## N° 3.

Fort William Select Consultation, 30th April 1764.

RECEIVED a Letter from *Cossimbuzar*, dated the 16th Instant, inclosing a Copy of One, which they had received from Mr. *Jekyll* at *Rungpoor*, complaining of

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an Insult offered him by Mr. *George Ivie*, an *European* Agent residing there, in a Letter which he wrote him, and of the ill Usage which the *Vacqueel* of the

6 K

Shawpoor

*Shawpoor* Zemindar had received from a Gomastah of Mr. *Pottecks* (another Agent) set forth in a Petition to Mr. *Jekyll*, of these Two Papers they also inclose us Copies, and request we will give such Orders as may prevent the like Behaviour in future; as it will be impossible for Mr. *Jekyll*, if he is to be infulded in the Discharge of his Duty, to put a Stop to the numberless Apprehensions the Government's People daily labour under, from the unlawful Proceedings of many of the private *Europeans* Agents and their Gomastahs, settled in the *Rungpoor* and *Dinagpoor* Countries, and of which repeated Complaints have been made to the Chief, by the Naib at *Moosbedabad*.

Read Mr. *Jekyll*'s Letter, and the other Papers referred to in the *Coffimbuzar* Letter.

Read a Letter from Mr. *Jekyll* to the President.

Read a Letter from the Juffidar of *Dinagpoor* to Mr. *Jekyll*.

Ordered, All these Papers be entered after the *Coffimbuzar* Letter.

Mr. *Middleton* delivers in a Letter, acquainting us, that Mr. *Ivis* is his Agent; and accompanying the Copy of a Paragraph of a Letter which he has received from him; in which Mr. *Ivis* represents the Matter of Mr. *Jekyll*'s Complaint against him in a very different Light to what he has done.

Ordered, It be entered, with the Paper accompanying, after this Consultation.

The foregoing Papers call to our Mind the many Disputes and Complaints which have already come before us, between the *European* Agents and the Country Government, and proving the Necessity of providing, as soon as possible, some effectual Remedy.—And

The Matter having undergone some Debate at the present Meeting;

Agreed, We come to a Resolution on the Subject next *Thursday*; and that these Papers do lay for Consideration till that Time.

## N° 9.

*Fort William* Select Consultation, 3 May 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The honourable *Henry Vanfittart*, Esquire, President,  
*Warren Hastings*, Esquire,  
*Randolph Marriot*, Esquire,  
*Samuel Middleton*, Esquire,  
*Ralph Lyeffer*, Esquire,  
*John Burdett*, Esquire.

THE Book of Standing Orders on the Table.

The Consultation of the 30 ultimo, being wrote fair, was now read, and approved.

Having now resumed the Consideration of the Subject debated on at last Council, and discouraged fully on every Point that occurred to the different Members,

The Board drew up the following general Opinion:

Every Method has been tried for carrying on the Inland Trade upon such a Footing as to prevent Disputes between our Agents and the Country Government, or between one Agent and another, and for deciding in a just and reasonable Manner, such as unavoidably might happen; having experienced the Obstructions to which that Trade would be liable, if the Officers of the Country Government were admitted to any Authority over the *English* Agents; it was Resolved in Consultation, 5th March 1763, That the Chief of the nearest *English* Factory should finally determine all such Disputes; and as the *Rungpoor*, and *Dinagpoor*, and adjacent Districts, where a very considerable Part of this Inland Trade centers, appeared to be too far removed from any of our Factories, to admit of such Enquiry being made in a satisfactory and accurate Manner; for this Reason principally it was agreed, that a senior Servant should be appointed to reside at *Rungpoor*, who should have Power to hear and determine all Disputes.

No sooner is this Resolution carried into Practice, than some of the *English* Agents complain as loudly of Injuries suffered from the Authority of the *English* Resident, as they did before of the Nabob's Government.

Shall there then be no Government, no Restraint upon those Excesses, which either Ignorance or Passion, or Self Interest, may lead an *English* Agent to commit in the Country? This is really the Case at present; and although it is very certain, that some of the Gentlemen employed are of unexceptionable Character, and whose good Behaviour might be depended on, yet many there are of a contrary Disposition; but there need not many Arguments to prove, that both the good and the bad

should be under some Law; yet if we examine the Case of the *English* Agents up the Country, we shall find they are under none; our Character does not authorize our Courts to take Cognizance of any Crimes they might commit in those Parts; and it has been laid down as a fundamental Principle, that the Country Government shall have no Power of them.

We need not look further for the Root of that Licentiousness, which has produced such innumerable Complaints from the Country Government, and the Inhabitants in those Parts where *European* Agents have been sent; it now no longer can be doubted, that many of those Complaints have been well grounded, particularly in the Article of selling Goods, by Force, for more than the current Market Price; a Practice called in this Country *Barja*, or *Guchaut*.

All the Power we can give the Chiefs of our Factories over these Agents will be very insufficient to remedy this Disorder: since in Reality we have none ourselves; and therefore disagreeable as it is to deprive so many of our Nation of the Benefits they now receive, by being employed as Agents in the Country, yet it seems an unavoidable Necessity; and for the Sake of the public Tranquillity and Welfare must be adopted, and the Trade carried on for the future by the Black Gomastahs, who may be tried and punished by our Court of Jemindary, if they commit any Excesses or Acts of Injustice; and that Power delegated, as far as shall appear necessary, to the Chiefs of the subordinate Factories.

It will be objected, by the concerned in the Inland Trade, that Gomastahs will be liable to be oppressed by the Country Government, who have taken, and will take, every Opportunity of restraining us from that Trade, which they regard as an Innovation; this Objection we believe is very just, and we shall expect that many Difficulties will be found in the Beginning in carrying on this Trade by Gomastahs; but these we think may be surmounted by proper Applications to the Nabob and his Officers; and upon the Whole are of Opinion, that all private Inconveniences must be submitted to, even the Risk of being entirely deprived of the Trade, rather than suffer the Inhabitants of the Country to be oppressed by an Abuse of the *English* Name.

It is therefore the Opinion of the Board, and Resolved, That all the *Europeans*, *Portuguese*, *Natives*, and *Armenian* Agents, and which are now up the Country, shall have Notice given them to settle their Concerns to



as to return to *Calcutta* by the 30th of November next; and that after that Time no *European* shall be permitted to go up the Country on any Pretence whatsoever, or any other Agents be employed in our Trade but *Bengal* Natives.

With respect to the Practice of carrying on the Inland Trade by Force (called *Burja*, or *Guchaut*) it is a Practice which we intirely disapprove; and in order to put a Stop to it as soon as possible, it is agreed to send Directions to *Dacca*, *Rangpore*, *Manida*, to forbid it in the Districts under their Factories; but to do it with such Care and Discretion as not to affect the Company's Investment, as we don't mean to invalidate the Right derived to the Company from their *Phirmaund*, always held over their own Weaver.

As these Resolutions will affect the particular Interest of all the Gentlemen in the Service, by altering the Manner of carrying on the Trade, it was wished, that every possible Expedient should be proposed for rendering more effectual the Intention of the Board, with as little Inconvenience as possible to Particulars; and every Objection heard that the Case will admit, before these Resolutions shall take Place.

Agreed therefore, That a Copy of the Proceedings of last Monday, and of this Day, be forwarded to Messieurs *Batson*, *Billers*, *Verelst*, *Cartier*, *Johnstone*, *Watts*, and *Senior*, and their Opinions desired, which we mean shall be esteemed as Voices to the Question.

Messieurs *Middleton* and *Burdett* differing in Opinion from the rest of the Members, with respect to the First Resolution, deliver in their Sentiments in the following Minute:

By recalling of *English* Agents from the different Aurungs, and placing *Black Gomaftahs* in their Stead, we think we shall be subject to the same Inconvenience, with respect to Disputes with the Country Government, as at present; for the latter are naturally of a tyran-

nical and arbitrary Disposition, and where they have any Authority, they will exert it to the utmost of their Power, at least as far as they find it necessary for their own Interest; we judge that they will have an equal Authority to an *English* Agent, as they must be supported by the same Instrument, a *Dultuck* and *English* Colours, else they cannot carry on their Business; and we therefore think, it would be best to give the Preference to Gentlemen of our own Country, in whom we can certainly place more Dependence than on a *Black Gomaftah*; but that such Gentlemen as are sent should be only Men of known Probity and good Character, and that have the Permission of the Whole, or at least the Majority, of the Board; we would recommend severe Penalties being annexed to any Breach of such Orders as the Board may please to give them, relative to their interfering in the Affairs of the Country Government; and that these Penalties may, without Favour, be put in Execution, whenever there is an Instance of an Offence of this Kind: This, we conceive, will keep Trade in general more on a Balance; for if the *English* Agents are withdrawn, the Gentlemen residing at Subordinates will have such Influence through all the adjacent Aurungs, to their respective Factories, that they may, when they please, monopolize the whole Trade to themselves.

With respect to the Second and Third Resolutions, we agree intirely with the Opinion of the Board.

Ordered, in consequence of the Third Resolution, That the Papers be prepared, and forwarded as soon as possible to the different Gentlemen, with a Letter from the Secretary.

*Henry Van Sittart,*  
*Samuel Middleton,*  
*Ralph Lyeester,*  
*John Burdett,*

Nº 10.

Fort William Select Consultation, the 21st July 1764.

THE Secretary reporting, That he has received the Opinions from the several Gentlemen at the Subordinates, concerning the *European* Agents, the Board now proceed to determine finally on that Subject.

Read again the Consultations of the 30th April and 3d May.

Read the Opinions received by the Secretary, in the following Order:

Mr. *Batson* is of Opinion, That the permitting of Free Merchants, or any others, not in the Company's Service, to settle at the Aurungs, or other Places up the Country, is quite contrary to the Intentions of the Company, no such Thing having been allowed for 10 or 12 Years after he came to *Bengal*, and that a Stop ought to be put to it, since he is persuaded it would prove highly detrimental to the Company's Trade and Interests in these Provinces.

*Patna*, May the 18th 1764.

Having perused the Consultations of the 30th of April and 3d of May, I now give it as my Opinion, That all *Europeans*, &c. Agents, should be called down from the different Aurungs; for I don't conceive it possible to lay them under such Restrictions, so as to prevent their meddling with the Country Government, by setting up for *Phoudars* wherever they go, which has been too much the Case of late; for this Reason, as well as that by the Continuance of them at different Aurungs they might in Time be a great Detriment to the Company's Investment, by providing of Goods for

Foreigners, I think it highly necessary to withdraw them, as soon as they can settle their present Concerns; however, I can't help observing, that the Orders of the Board are somewhat hard, in not permitting an *European* to go up the Country on any Pretence whatsoever, as there are some Particulars to be excepted to; namely, that of conducting of Boats, which cannot be so well performed as by the Management of an *European*.

*W<sup>m</sup> Billers.*

Mr. *Verelst*, after having carefully perused the Consultations of the 30th of April, and 3d Instant, with the Papers therein referred to, transmitted to him by the Secretary, by Order of the Board, begs Leave to remark as follows:

From the general Opinion the Board have formed in their latter Consultation, it appears to him, that the Debates have taken their Rise from Mr. *Jekyll's* Complaints against Mr. *Joy*, an *European* Agent, for having wrote an insulting Letter to him; and from the ill Usage that the *Zemindar* of *Shawpore* had received from a *Gomaftah* of Mr. *Pallacks*, another Agent; but as the Board seem not to have come to a Determination, how far either the one or the other of these Gentlemen has been culpable, and as the Resolution of the Board to call down all *European* Agents, has been formed from an Opinion of the ill Behaviour of those that have been employed, and as Mr. *Verelst* is unacquainted with the different Complaints made, he would have been glad to have heard the Debates on Messrs. *Jekyll* and *Joy's* Letters, as their Representations are strongly contradictory

tory to each other, to have enabled him to have given his Opinion more fully thereon; therefore, should he be deficient in what he may propose, he hopes the Board will consider how difficult it is to recommend a Remedy, where the Disease is not thoroughly known.

First, He is of Opinion, that *European Agents*, in any Part of the Country, acting with the Approbation of the President and Council of *Bengal*, are as much under the Law as any Person residing at any Factory, established before or since the Grant of His Majesty's Charter; for His Majesty's Intentions, as expressed in the Beginning of the Charter, seem to be for the Benefit of all such of His Subjects as carry on their Trade in any Part within the Limits prescribed; which are set forth to be, from the *Cape of Good Hope* to the *Streights of Magellan*: That no Factory in the Kingdoms is out of the Limits of our own Courts, every Member of the Board must be well satisfied, since a Warrant from the Mayor's Court was not long since sent up, and executed on a Gentleman in this Place. The same public Power that authorizes an Agent to trade in these Countries, confirms to him by that Act, a Protection for his Life and Property against every Invader, through those Parts where the Influence of such Power extends; and the Agent becomes reciprocally answerable for his own Conduct.—It is not doubted, he presumes, but that the Board have a Privilege of settling a Factory, for the greater Conveniences of Trade, in any Part of these Provinces that they may approve; and that on settling such Factory the Members are still under the Law; if therefore, in a collective Sense, any Number of Gentlemen are thus qualified, and naturally continue subordinate to the Laws of their Country, be their Residence in those Parts where it will, he hopes it will not be disputed, but that the same Subordination extends to any single Member, or to an Agent publicly and fully authorized to trade in the same Parts (that is to say, by the Suffrage of the Board) as it does to this Community; for Equity must invariably be the same in a single as in a collective Sense; and His Majesty's Motive seems to have been, that His Grant should not be confined to any particular Place or Degree. Mr. Verelst therefore thinks it would be an Inconfinity to suppose, that His Majesty could intend, that One Part of His Charter, which constitutes the Mayor's Court of *Calcutta*, should have a Power of trying all Losses of *Moon and Tunn*, where the Property of any of His Subjects was concerned, be the Debt contracted (and the Persons present) in any Place within the Limits of Trade; and that the other, constituting Courts for the Redress of greater Grievances, where His Subjects one with another were also concerned, should in any Case be so confined, as to leave their Persons and Properties without Redress.—Indeed, he considers the Charter a more extensive Good, designed for the happy Government and Protection, and every Individual of the *English Nation* Residency in any of these Parts.

Secondly, He is of Opinion, That the employing *English Agents* is much more eligible than Black Gomastahs; for having experienced both, he can aver, that he has never had a Complaint against any of his *European Agents*, though he cannot say so much of the Black Gomastahs; whose tyrannical and arbitrary Dispositions, when in Authority, do incline them to a Search after their own Interest, and a Disregard to every Means they may think most convenient to promote it; nor can the strictest Eye over them, and even the Infliction of Punishment, root the Evil out; whereas he believes that few *Europeans* are without some Principles of Honour and Justice, but should there be a Character void of them, he imagines such might easily be detected, and the Power of the Board prevent their being employed; for he thinks it both right and necessary, that every *European Agent* going up the Country, should have the Approbation and Permission of the Board; and if any Person be proposed to them, whose Character and Dispo-

sition they are any ways dubious of, and who cannot give an ample and sufficient Security for his good Behaviour, he thinks it highly necessary such Person ought to be objected to; the Security might be responsible for his not interfering with the Nabob's Officers, Revenues, Government, or any Concerns belonging to the Natives; but should the Agents be ill used by them, his Application for Redress may be made to the Chief of the nearest Subordinate; or, in Case of his not being in the Neighbourhood of a Subordinate, to the President of *Calcutta*; and should an *European Agent*, after this, be guilty of any Act of a criminal Nature, he thinks the Board have a Right immediately to recall him, when he may be prosecuted for his Offence: But should Mr. Verelst be erroneous in his Opinion, in regard to the Execution of our Laws in such Cases, not having a perfect Copy of the Charter to refer to, and that such Offences cannot be tried by our own Laws, we have still a sufficient Authority left of administering Justice by the Laws of this Country; for if an Agent, when up the Country, is supposed to be under his own native Laws, he must unavoidably be under the Laws of the Country he is in, for it is impossible that a Subject of any Society can be irresponsible to all Law; this Method he thinks the Nabob can have no Objection to, though the Offence may be committed within Part of his Government, where he shall be convinced how far it is only intended to give Redress to his Subjects by the most impartial Justice; nor does he apprehend the injured Native can disapprove this Method of Redress, which he may without Expence; when in the same Circumstance, by Application to his Court, he must pay so heavily for it; and to prevent any Objection being made to the Dilatance that such Complainants must come for Redress, a reasonable Allowance for their Loss of Time and Expence (which will also be a further Check on Agents) may be made to them by the Offender, or in case of his Default by his Securities. A few Examples like those, he doubts not, would in a short Time remove most, or all, Complaints against *European Agents*; but he knows no Method that can be proposed to prevent the licentious Behaviour of Black Gomastahs.

Having thus far considered the Propriety of employing *European Agents* or Black Gomastahs, Mr. Verelst begs Leave to add, that it is his Opinion, a greater Dependence may be made on Gentlemen of our own Country, and a much greater Advantage reaped by the Trader from their Services; and viewing it also in a political Light, he thinks many very material Benefits may arise from the Knowledge we might thereby gain of the Country, its Produces and Trade, the Customs, Manner, and Government of the People; Circumstances which we may ever remain ignorant of, if Black Gomastahs only are to be employed; the Benefits of the Knowledge of which speak so strongly for themselves, that they need no Comments thereon.

The Licentiousness of *European Agents* that the Board mentions, in the Circumstance of Barja or Guchaout, he is of Opinion ought to be entirely prohibited; and is surprised how so extraordinary an Oppression has taken its Rise, or was ever suffered, if known to the Employers of such Agents as are accused of it.

Mr. Verelst therefore begs Leave summarily to observe, that he is of Opinion, *European Agents* should be employed in Preference to Black Gomastahs; and that such Agents who have the Approbation and Permission of the Board, may be prosecuted for any Crimes or Licentiousness they may commit.

#### Mr. Cartier's Opinion.

Having perused with much Attention, and deliberately reflected on the Purport of the Consultation held at *Fort William* the 3d of May, I agree in Opinion with the Majority of Members at the Board, as to the Necessity

coffity of recalling all *European Agents, Portuguese, and Armenians*, residing in the Inland Parts of the Country, and employed by Gentlemen in the Company's Service; but that a stated Time be allowed the Gentlemen, as may be thought sufficient to conclude their Affairs now in the Hands of their several Agents. The frequent Complaints which have been made by the Officers of the Government, of the great Power and Independency these Agents assume in conducting their Business, the Abuses the Natives are subject to from their Caprice and uncontrollable Authority, are the chief Reasons of my agreeing to the above Opinion: If we expect the Nabob will set about redressing the Errors in his Government, he has a Right to expect we should remove such in ours as may be particularly oppressive on his Subjects: When private Interests interfere with public Tranquillity, it ought to give Place; and all Methods that may tend to remove Jealousies ought to be pursued with Vigour: The Time of *European Agents* being allowed to go up the Country is of a very late Date, and has not been very general till within these Two Years; how agreeable this Practice would prove to our honourable Masters, it is most probable we shall have their Sentiments on the Subject by the next Ships.

John Cartier.

Mr. Johnston's Opinion.

It is observed in the general Opinion, that every Method has been tried for carrying on the Inland Trade upon such a Footing as to prevent Disputes between our Agents and the Country Government, or between one Agent and another; yet I can recollect no Method that has ever been tried, but that which was claimed and approved in the General Council; viz. the appointing a Resident for the District of *Rangoon*, and referring Disputes in other Places to the nearest *English* Factory: If the Want of proper and explicit Powers invested in the Resident there to take Cognizance and determine in these Matters, or his Abuse of them, has given Cause for Complaints against him by *European Agents* and *Gomastahs*, or of Appeals to the honourable Board for further Instructions for his future Guidance, it is most to be wondered at, but may be expected in all new Regulations, which cannot be perfect at once, but by Experience and frequent Amendments; which surely ought first to be endeavoured at, and I am far from imagining now, more than before, to be impracticable.

Instead therefore of so readily seizing and making an Handle of the first Squabbles, Abuses, or unjustifiable Proceedings of the *English* Agents and *Gomastahs*, on their contesting the Power of the Resident, or of the Resident and his *Gomastahs* Proceedings in their Competition of Interest at *Rangoon*, to entirely abolish the Regulation made for conducting the private Trade in general through the Country, before we have had Time to try the good Effects it is capable of producing, when carried into Execution, it should much more reasonably occasion an Enquiry to be made into the Proceedings of the Parties complained against, and that proper Security and Redressment should be shewn towards those who may be found to have transgressed. Scarce any Laws have been made without being liable to some Inconveniences and Defects; surely when this Regulation was made, it was not supposed, that Causes of Complaint would immediately cease, and never more exist; but that this established Method for examining into, and speedily redressing, them, bid fairest for correcting and lessening them in future: Let Government and proper Restrictions take place by all Means; but as all Men are fallible, it is the more necessary that the Powers of those who govern, as well as the Liberties of those who are governed, should be clearly and fully explained and prescribed.

I ever disapproved of those Regulations by which our

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Inland Trade and Privileges in the Country were so easily and precipitately given up to the lawless Will of the Nabob *Casim Ally*; and though White Men are Men, there ever will be Abuses; yet I am far from thinking it right, those in general that have been complained of, but that have never yet, that I know of, been properly examined into and proved, should be urged as established Facts, or be the Grounds of Resolutions so likely to be productive of the same bad Effects on our Inland Trade. It was resolved at that Time, when so many Complaints were collected and produced before the Board, that they should be properly enquired into, without being taken for granted, by the Chiefs of the Factories, the most contiguous to those Places, and by the Resident at *Rangoon*, whose Appointment was principally on this Account, in order, no Doubt, that Satisfaction might be given to the Sufferers, and Example made of the Offenders; which no one then thought either impracticable or beyond the Power of the Governor and Council; nor can I conceive how it is become so now, or that no Obligations that can be entered into betwixt them and the *Europeans* can be binding, or Penalties recovered of them, which seems to be urged as the greatest Difficulty and Objection; but though the whole Repentment now meditated, is likely to fall on the *Europeans* alone, yet, by that very Collection, and since, I believe it will be found, that there are many more Complaints against the *Bengal* Native *Gomastahs*, for the Abuse of their Power; than against the *European Agents* under whom they are employed; yet, if it is intended, we should support our Rights to, and enjoy the Advantages of, a fair and open Inland Trade in future, the Native *Gomastahs*, to be employed in managing so considerable Concerns, must have Powers invested in them like to those that are given to *English* Gentlemen, by none of which, do I imagine, they are ever authorized to act with Violence, Injustice, or Oppression, to any one. From their Ideas of Government, the Constitution of their Country, and the daily Examples of their own People before their Eyes, as well as from my own Experience of their Behaviour, I esteem them equally liable, and more prone, to make a bad Use of their Stations and Powers in their Transactions in the Country, than our Countrymen, and I wish I had no Reason to complain of their Honesty; however, it is plain, that they may be restrained and punished by these very same Rules and Laws now, when they act subordinate to an *European Agent* stationed up the Country, as they can be when invested with their Powers immediately from the Company's Servants, wherever they may chance to be; nor do the Restraints that we have upon them, with all the Powers of a Zemindary or Cutcherry Court, appear to me to be half so great as those we have in our Power to impose on *Europeans*. A black Fellow, if found clever and diligent in Business, we see never at a Loss for getting Employment, though he may have imposed upon many Masters; besides, being in his own Country, he can never be without Resources; but I think it very different with an *English* Agent, whose very Bread and Fortune must depend upon the Protection, Assistance, and Employment, of the Company, or of their Servants; and who, by depriving them of this, have it always in their Power to punish those that behaved unworthily:—If so unsurmountable an Obstacle, and so many Difficulties, present themselves, merely for Want of Power in prosecuting and punishing any capital Offences in *Europeans*, because the Rights of our Charter extend only within the Bounds of our own Factories—judging as *Englishmen*, Is the Difficulty less, when we come to examine by what legal Authority we can proceed to try, and put the same Punishments in Force against, the Natives that happen at this Time to be under the Company's Power, or who act in Affairs of Commerce within the Nabob's Dominions?—Perhaps the truest Answer can be given is, That it is a necessary Exertion of Power that we assume, to prevent greater Inconveniences,

encies, and the bad Effects of suffering Crimes to go unpunished, which our Power, now so greatly extended, won't longer admit of being submitted to another Tribunal.

The arguing that our *English* Agents are not liable to be tried by our Laws for any Crimes they commit in those Parts, and that this is the Source of those Evils, makes equally strong against the Company's employing their Servants without the Limits of their Charter; but they have never yet declared, on this Account, that they debar their Servants from employing any Agents they please, and thereby sharing on the Advantages of Trade they themselves enjoy in this Country, merely from the Possibility of their committing capital Crimes. — I believe there are few, if any, of our Nation, stand accused of any other Principles; and other Checks have, in this respect, answered all the Purposes of a penal Law. What Security do the Company yet require for the good Behaviour of their Servants, in their Dealings with the Natives, that the Free Merchants have not given, or that the Board are not at Liberty to require, or greater, if they think proper, on the Part of those *Europeans* sent up the Country? Extortion, Violence, and Punishments inflicted of their own Authority, and such like Abuses, if not prosecutable in the Mayor's Court or Cutcherry, yet the Agents and their Constituents may be bound down by such Penalties, in Case of bad Behaviour, as to render this a greater Check and Restraint than the common Prosecutions at Law, besides their being recalled, and never again permitted to get their Bread in that Employ; or, if the Board think proper, sent Home. While Messrs. *Vanstuart* and *Hastings* carried on their Trade, none in the Settlement had so many *European* Agents in their Service up the Country as they; and some of these, if we credit the Representations lodged against them, particularly *Mysapba* and Mr. *Moore* at *Rungpoor*, carried it with as high a Hand as any others that have been charged with an Abuse of the Power and Name of the *English*: While these Gentlemen were carrying on their Trade in its greatest Extent, and had not declared their Intentions of going Home, I do not recollect that their Zeal for the *English* Name, which in their former political Transactions and Treaties has been so little considered, gave Occasion to any Proposals for recalling all *English* Agents:—That they promote it when their Affairs are collecting in, and themselves not likely much longer to be interested in the Conference, is not strange; and while it will be urged to our honourable Masters, as a Proof how much before they were in the Right, in their famous Paper of new Regulations, in sacrificing to the public Tranquillity, as they may say, our Privileges of a free Inland Trade, &c. &c. and all the rest, that then disapproved it, and planned this Regulation, were in the wrong: Yet, what are the unfathomable Difficulties that have arisen since, I am at a Loss to conceive: If so extensive a private Trade was conducted, well and prudently by Mr. *Vanstuart's* Agents, there is still as much Reason to expect it may be yet conducted discreetly for others, by Men whose Characters are to be approved of by the Board, and when these Regulations and Obligations are put in Force. I am well convinced with what jealous Eyes the Government's People and Country Merchants look on us, since we became Sharers in the Inland Trade, which formerly they carried on alone, and how ready the Officers and Collectors are to complain, exaggerate, and misrepresent, the most trifling Circumstances against any of our People, that can serve for an Excuse for their not paying up for their Collections; yet the longer we defer examining and confronting them, the more will those Excuses be pleaded, and supposed as true. Let it therefore be firmly resolved, that they in future be fairly tried; and Satisfaction, such as the Board in such Cases shall think meet, be duly given on the Offenders. The Number of Complaints and Causes would soon, I believe, much

diminish, when it is once made publicly known to the Government's Officers, and to the Country People every where, that it is our Resolution to protect them, and redress their Grievances in their Transactions with our Agents, &c. and a Method pointed out to them how they may have Justice. Daily Experience persuades me these People will not be backward in their Application to our Courts; or that an Agent can long continue to exercise Oppression or Rapine, without being found out and convicted, at the Hazard of his Bread. This I think sufficient to obviate any Objections drawn from the Difficulties the Board must always be under, as to the distinguishing who are proper People to be permitted to go up, from Ignorance of Characters, and from the Variableness of the same Men, who, in such Situation, act very differently from what they have done in other Stations; because their Actions, it is evident, can neither be long disguised or concealed. But can it be wondered at, should many of the Irregularities, Abuses, and Oppressions, complained of, have actually been committed, while we have neither taken Cognizance, punished, or enquired into, ourselves, any who could have been convicted; nor would permit the Government's People to use the same Methods as before the Revolution 1757, for doing themselves Justice, or obtaining Satisfaction, by a Reference to any of their own Magistrates? As for my own Part, I neither desire to screen nor to support Mr. *Pollock*, nor any that I have had Dealings with, for Misdemeanors that can be made appear, either past nor to come; his being particularized in the Complaints that has given Rise to the present Proceeding, will, I hope, excuse me to the Board, for producing other Instances in this Case, and pointing out in Return, that Mr. *Moore* was then supported by 25 *Seapoys* besides his *Poons*, &c.; and, by Mr. *Jekyll's* own Representations on that very Letter, had, with the Assistance of Captain *Daw*, settled and recovered all his Demands for Losses, and who, it would appear, overawed the *Rungpoor* Shouldar, so as not to dare to complain or acknowledge any Thing about it.

As I have declared my Disapprobation already of every Abuse the *English* Agents, as well as those Gomastahs that are employed under them, have made or may make of their Power, I am the readier to agree to the tying them down by every Restriction that Reason and Prudence can dictate, as most likely to correct the like in future; by bounding their Powers in regard to the Force they should keep, Badges, Chubdar Sticks, &c. and never to allow them to punish or redress themselves at their own Hands, but oblige them to submit their Complaints every where to the Chiefs and Residents, when they should be publicly tried, entered, and registered in Books for that Purpose; and Liberty, in Sums to a certain Amount, for appealing to the Governor and Council. I would recall all those who are known to have behaved badly heretofore, and without satisfactory Proofs of their Innocence, would not permit such to return again; allow none but Men of good Fame to go up, either to reside in any Part of the Country, or to conduct Fleets; and to oblige them and their Employers to give such Security as that Damages could always be recovered of them in Case of bad Behaviour. Should those Measures prove ineffectual, we may then think of adopting others; but for vague and general Complaints and Aspersions, or for the Offences of a few, without an Effort made to examine and rectify them, to take a Resolution so injurious to the Rights and Trade of every Company's Servant, and to the *British* Subjects under the Company's Protection, appear to me highly improper:—The support of these and our other Privileges, in their full Extent, against the Usurpations of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy War; and, after so many valuable Lives lost in the Defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the Loss of them, without greater and better

Cause than has yet appeared; and till after we have found by Experience, that all other Remedies are in vain.

It must be well known, to all who have had their Concerns managed at the Discretion of *Bengal Gomastahs* at a Distance, what Embezzlements and Deceits they are guilty of; and that Temptation to make away with their Employers Money is stronger than any Fear of corporal Punishment or Imprisonment, which they submit to for Years sooner than refund; as yet, neither Death nor Loss of Cast, has been annexed to their Breach of Trust:—Is it to be expected their Fidelity and Moderation in the Exercise of their Trusts will be increased by knowing that we are, without other Resources, obliged to employ them alone? To oblige us, therefore, to trust our Fortunes solely to the Fidelity of Black Servants, over whom we have so little Rank, rather than the Conduct and Discretion of Men that we ourselves, it is presumed, ought to know; who are to be judged of and approved by the Board, who have their Honour, Character, and their future Success, at Stake, in my humble Opinion, is neither right nor salutary.

I subscribe to the Dissent of Messrs. *Middleton* and *Burdett*, to the First Resolution of the Majority, which I think they have supported with very good and true Reason:—In the Second, I think the Orders regarding the stopping the Oppressions by *Baya* and *Cajaat* are very proper: But if any such Methods are used over the Weavers employed in furnishing the Company's Investment, I imagine it must be equally their Interest, and for the Honour of their Name, that such Methods should in future be prohibited finally; such Resolutions seem more especially premature at present, after the great Losses that the Servants, whose Fortunes were circulated in the Inland Trade, have and do sustain by the Troubles, and by the yet distant and uncertain Prospect they have of Restitution, and the narrow Bounds prescribed to their Claims; and above all, considering that this Affair has been already so lately heard and determined in a General Council, and the Company's final Regulations, to whose Determination it has been referred, may be so soon expected.

*Burdwan,*  
the 4th July 1764.

*John Johnson.*

Mr. Watts's Opinion.

Mr. *Watts* agrees with the general Opinion in the Consultation of the 3d of May, for recalling the *English*, *Portuguese*, and *Armenian* Agents; but as by this Step the Gentlemen stationed at the Subordinates and Residencies, will have it in their Power to monopolize the Trade to themselves, he thinks it ought to be guarded against; and therefore, proposes, that we have Permission to send *European* Agents to reside at the subordinate Factories and Residencies; and the better to prevent their interfering with the Country Government,

they should not be allowed to go to adjacent Markets, Villages, or Cities, without the Leave of the Chief, neither should they be suffered to seize any *Pykars* or others, but to apply to the Chief for the Redress of any Grievances.

*Calcutta,*  
the 25th June 1764.

Mr. Senior's Opinion.

The ordering down of *Europeans* has been a Matter of long Debate, and which I was ever of Opinion would be the only Means for establishing of Peace and Tranquillity in the Country. My former Situation at *Dacca* gave me a much greater Opportunity than most of the Gentlemen in the Service to see the Necessity of such a Step, as appears by my frequent Remonstrances to the Board on the Subject; and since I have been at *Cassimbazar*, Complaints of the like Kind have been more frequent, particularly from *Rungpoor*, *Denagepoor*, and the Districts of the *Rashty* Raja, a List whereof I now inclose for the honourable Board's Inspection. I will allow that many of them may appear both frivolous and unjust, as it is not to be doubted but the Country People will take every Opportunity to deprive us of a Trade they regard as usurped; yet I am well convinced that some of them are not without Foundation, as I made it my Business to send *Hircarras* to several of the Places mentioned, to make the Enquiry, before I would give my Judgment on so interesting an Occasion. I should be very sorry to be the Means of depriving so many of our Nation of the Benefits they now receive, by being employed as Agents up the Country, as I have a great Regard for many of them, and believe of unexceptionable Characters; but as I do not find that any Method can be fixed on to curb the Licentiousness of others, or to keep such as are worthy only in our Employ, I am therefore of Opinion that a general Removal should take Place, agreeable to the Resolution of the Board of the 3d of May last.

*A. W. Senior.*

Read the Company's Orders on this Subject, contained in the 20th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, and 25th Paragraphs of their Letter of the 8th of January 1764.

In Consequence of these Opinions and Orders, it is Resolved, That all *European* Agents be recalled; and that they do leave the respective Places of their Residence in the Country, in such Time as to arrive in *Calcutta* by the 31st of December.

Ordered, That Notice be accordingly published here, and at all the subordinate Factories, requiring the Constituents of all such Agents to pay due Obedience thereto, and transmit to them in Time the proper Information and Orders. And

Agreed, That a Scheme be prepared for restraining and carrying on the Inland Trade, agreeable to the Spirit of the Company's Orders.

N<sup>o</sup> II.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 8th February 1764.

8. IN the Course of our Enquiry into these Transactions, we observe one *Cole*, said to be a Writer, is complained of, for that at *Mansur Gunge Haut*, which produces annually 12,000 Rupees, he had turned out all the Inhabitants, in order to build an House, as set forth in a Letter entered after Consultation of the 18th of October 1762; who this *Cole* is we are not informed, but let him be whom he may, you are to make a strict Enquiry into the said Outrage; and if you find him guilty of it, you are, in the first Place, to oblige him to

make a suitable and ample Satisfaction to the injured Parties, and then immediately send him away to *Europe*.

9. We further find, that several Persons residing under the Presidency of *Bengal*, as well Free Merchants as others, have conducted themselves very unwarrantably, carrying on their Trade in several Parts of the Country in the most uncontroulable Manner, and thereby exposing the Company's valuable Privileges to the greatest Detriment and Hazard; some of whose Names, who appear

appear the most remarkable, are Messieurs *Chevalier, Teyra, Jay, Malte, Robinson*, and the before-mentioned *Cole*. With respect to Free Merchants, they certainly by such Behaviour forfeit their Covenants; and as to others, they have no Right to the Company's Protection, especially if they are guilty of the Irregularities laid to their Charge; we shall therefore leave it to you to make a general Enquiry into the Behaviour of such Persons who reside any where under your Presidency; and if you find their Behaviour has been, or shall be, such as may be really detrimental to the Company, you are to

withdraw our Protection from them, and send them away from Bengal as soon as you shall think fit, giving us from Time to Time an Account of your Proceedings with respect to every such Person.

23. As no Agents or Gomastahs are to reside, on Account of private Trade, at any of the Inland Parts of the Country, all Business on Account of licensed private Trade is to be carried on by and through the Means of the Company's Covenant Servants, resident at the several subordinate Factories, as has been usual.

## No 12.

General Consultation.

*Fort William, the 20th May 1765.*

AGREED and Ordered, in Consequence of the Proceedings of the Committee laid before the Board last Council Day, That public Advertisment be made, enforcing our Orders already given for the Return of the *English, Portuguese, and Armenian*, Agents, employed in

the different Parts of the Country, to the Presidency, and requiring all whoever, most strictly, to arrive by the First of August; and their Constituents to give them due Notice accordingly.

## No 13.

To Mr. Malby.

Sir,

I Am directed by the Select Committee to acquaint you, That, in Consequence of the bad State of your Health, which you represent, Four Months, from the 1st Instant, will be allowed you for collecting in your

Affairs; at the Expiration of which, you are required to repair without further Notice to *Calcutta*.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

*Fort William,*  
the 27th June 1765. (Signed) *A. Campbell, S. S. C.*

## No 14.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council at *Fort William*.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

HAVING, in Obedience to the Directions of the Secret Committee, transmitted us under Date the 15<sup>th</sup> ult. for the Recall of all *English* Agents, sent Orders to all such as we know of, residing in Parts contiguous to *Dacca*, and to those who are employed by us at *Gualparraw*, for their Return to *Calcutta* in the Space of One Month; we must now, my Lord and Gentlemen, from a full Conviction of the real and great Inconveniences and Losses that will attend us, as well as some of those Agents by us employed, on so sudden and immediate a Recall, intreat, that a longer Space of Time may be allowed the following Gentlemen, for the settling of their Business, or putting it on such a Footing as we their Employers may be as little Sufferers as possible; and we are more particularly urgent in Behalf of those Gentlemen residing at *Gualparraw*, from the Impossibility of having that Branch of Business transacted by the Natives, without suffering very considerable Losses, on Account of

the great Distance, and their being free from all Cheek and Controul of their Employers; and we do willingly consent and agree, on such Indulgence being shewn us, to be responsible for the prudent Conduct of our respective Agents.

We are now to request, my Lord and Gentlemen, that the additional Space of Time you may be pleased to allow the following Agents may be lengthened to the under-mentioned Term, from the Date of granting the same,

To Mr. John Corser at *Gualparraw*, Four Months.

Mr. Robert Crouford ditto

Mr. James Galloway at *Corrigong*, Two Months.

We are with due Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servants,

*Dacca*  
the 8th June 1765.

*John Corser*  
*Robt Crouford*  
*Thos Francis*  
*Willm Shaw*

N<sup>o</sup> 15.

To John Cartier, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at *Dacca*.

Gentlemen,  
WE have received your Letter of the 8th Instant, to the President and Council, which ought to have been addressed to the Select Committee.

To evince how ready we are to grant every reasonable Indulgence, to those Free Merchants especially who are employed as Agents for the Company's Servants, we do consent to extend the Time for their Return to the Presidency to Four Months, as you request.

At the same Time we must acquaint you, that we are determined to put in Execution the Company's Orders, though with all possible Regard for the Interest of Individuals; and we desire you will inform the Gentlemen of this our Resolution.

Fort William,  
14th June 1765.

We are with great Regard,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most humble Servants.

N<sup>o</sup> 16.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee at *Fort William*.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
MR. James Hargrave, who has resided some Time at *Rungpur*, in order to finish some Concerns there belonging to Mr. Henry Vanstuart, acquaints us, that there are still outstanding several Sums of Money due from the People of that Place for Goods sold to them, and which he apprehends will be recovered with great

Difficulty, or probably lost, if he is obliged to quit the Place directly.

We therefore take the Liberty to request you will grant him Permission to reside there Three or Four Months longer, which he informs us will be Time sufficient for the Purpose.

We are with great Respect,  
My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most humble Servants,  
Fort William,  
the 18th June 1765.  
Geo. Van Sittart,  
Henry Pleuman.

N<sup>o</sup> 17.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
IMMEDIATELY upon your Order, regarding *Europeans*, coming down from the Country, I wrote to those who were employed by me, either on my own Account, or on Account of the Estate of the deceased Mr. Robert Brown, to whom I am Executor, that they should make all Dispatch in finishing their Business, so as to be here by the First of *August*, if it was in their Power, without suffering any very great Loss; but notwithstanding of this, there is one George Berner at Camp, collecting in Money belonging to Mr. Brown's Estate, being from thence to come to *Caragola* upon the same Account, where it will be necessary for him to remain a few Months perhaps, if I can so far obtain your Indulgence for him. There is also one Peter Petropoly, who went up with a Fleet of Salt, belonging to Mr. Billers and me, who has very lately stopped with the returning Boats at *Nadob-gungy*, where it will be absolutely necessary to repair them before they can be brought any further; a like Indul-

gence for him therefore I shall esteem as a particular Favour.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I further most humbly beg the Favour and Protection for Two Persons of this Country, called *Urban Seffer* and *Johannes Boedel*; they entered into Contract with me, on the Second Day of *April* last, under a very considerable Penalty too, to transport a large Quantity of Salt to *Patna*, for which at a great Charge they have now got the Boats ready, and are loading.

They will be obliged to make Two or more Trips, and of Course take several Months before they will be able to finish their Contract; but as their Business is not to trade, but only to attend and take care of their Boats, and the Salt in them, they will want only your Permission to purchase Provisions, and to be allowed every necessary Assistance that they may need, as they go along, on their faithfully and honestly paying for the same.

I have the Honour to be, with the utmost Respect,  
My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Calcutta*,  
the 10th June 1765.  
Archd Kew.

N<sup>o</sup> 18.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,  
I AM directed by the Members of the Select Committee to acquaint you, that the several Agents you employ in collecting your own Affairs, and those of the Estate of the late Mr. Brown, will be allowed to reside Three Months after the 21st Instant for that Purpose; that the Time necessary for repairing your Boats at Na-

bongunge will be granted to Peter Petropoly; and that the Persons with whom you have contracted to convey your Salt to Patna will be suffered to fulfil their Contracts, and to go up and down the River unmolested, provided they confine themselves strictly to that Object.

I am, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
Fort William, (Signed) A. Campbell, S. S. C.  
the 11th July 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 19.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &amp;c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
H A V I N G been jointly concerned with the late Mr. Billers in Salt made in the Collaries of the honourable Company, which was all intended for the Market of Patna, and being now the only surviving Partner, I most humbly beg your Permission for Leave

to go and reside at that Place till the Joint Stock shall be all sold, and that I shall have collected the Produce of the Sales. Your Favour in this will very greatly oblige me; who have the Honour to be, with the utmost Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient  
Humble Servant,  
Calcutta, (Signed) Archibald Keir.  
the 7th August 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 20.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,  
I Laid your Letter this Morning before the Gentlemen of the Select Committee now in Calcutta, and have their Directions to acquaint you, that they do not think themselves empowered, in the Absence of a Majority of the Members, to grant you an Indulgence, expressly contrary to the late positive Resolution of the whole Committee, and the peremptory Orders of the Court of Directors.

However, that in Consideration of the peculiar Circumstances you set forth, they will immediately forward your Letter to Lord Clive and the other Members, and request their Opinion on the Subject of your Application.

I am, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
Fort William, (Signed) A. Campbell, S. S. C.  
10th August 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 21.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, Baron of Plaffey, &amp;c. &amp;c. President and Governor, &amp;c. Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
N O T having had no further Notice taken of the Letter which I had the Honour to write you in August last, I had flattered myself with the Hopes that my Case, which you were pleased to say should be considered of, would have been found such by you, as to have excepted me out of your last General Order, touching Free Merchants residing here. But as I find, by what was notified to me To-day, that my former Represent-

ation has not had the Effect which I expected from it, I must again beg your Indulgence in stating my Case to you in a more full and particular Manner than what I have yet done, which I hope you will have the Patience and Goodness to hear.

My Situation and Circumstances are very widely different from that of any other private Trader in Bengal, I believe; for I may justly and truly be considered as a Company's Merchant, who has bought a very large Parcel of Goods for a certain Market, under Direction of a Chief and Council, where I only want Liberty to sell them: For I hired the Kallaruss of the honourable Company at a very advanced Price, more than what any Merchant



Merchant who had before had them would venture to give them, in the Year 1763: Again in the Year 1763, in Conjunction with the deceased *William Billers*, Elquire, I hired them a second Time, at a still higher Rate; and the Salt of these Two Years remains now on my Hands, to the Quantity of Three Lacks. But at the Time when those Kallarur were taken, there was not the smallest Intimation of People's being hindered going up the Country to dispose of Goods; of Course there could be no Occasion for my Stipulations or Indulgence; which would certainly have never been denied me, as it is well known that every Encouragement that can be given was always granted to those who bought Goods of the honourable Company. For this Reason, I have always had Difficulties with my Salt; and this was the Reason, I believe, which so readily engaged your Lordship, &c. to grant my Request in June last, when I applied to you on Account of those who had contracted with me for Liberty to carry up my Salt. What Favours or Indulgences you may be pleased to shew to others, do not at all concern me; yet I cannot help observing, that if any private Persons are to be indulged in this Respect, whether as Servants to the Servants of the honourable Company, or even on Account of the Society of Trade, or otherwise, a Company's Merchant will not be thought unworthy of the Favour of being allowed to sell his Goods (which he bought of the Company) in the best Manner he can; more especially if it be considered, that for that Purpose he requests only Leave to reside at a Chiefship; and that he is ready to enter into any Bond, under any Penalty, that he shall, neither directly or indirectly, meddle with the Country Government at all, as I am ready to do, whenever you think proper to require it: Nay, I will even oblige myself to be in every Respect under the Orders of the Chief and Council here, provided only I have but free Liberty to stay and to dispose of my Salt, with the Protection of the honourable Company.—That I did not apply to you for this Indulgence at the Time when I wrote to you for those who were to bring up my Salt, was, because I did not then know that I should have had any Occasion at all to have asked such a Favour; for about that Time I made Proposals to the Executors of the deceased *Mr. Billers*, either to dispose of the Joint Stock themselves at *Patna*, or to sell it to me; which last being thought by them most beneficial for the Estate, was accepted of, on my giving Bond and Security for the Payment of the Money; you will thus plainly perceive, therefore, that the Necessity of my staying at *Patna* is not entirely of my own seeking; nor would I have given you so much Trouble, in thus earnestly requesting such a Favour, if my own Fortune, as well as that of others, to a very considerable Amount, did not so greatly depend upon it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, You will perhaps allege that I may consign my Salt to any Gentlemen of the Factory here, and that it will be as well taken Care of as it could, were I present. But first, as to the Care, I should beg Leave to differ from you; for though I have the highest Opinion of the Worth and Integrity of most of the Gentlemen here, yet I can never imagine that any, who have so much Business of their own and the Company, would ever be able, were they ever so wil-

ling, to pay that Care and Attention to my Concerns, as I should do myself; as to selling, indeed, it is easily done, and requires little more than Integrity; but for receiving and delivering such a Quantity of Salt, there is Industry and Trouble to undergo, more than what I shall ever trust to any other Person in so large a Concern, unless I am absolutely obliged to it; there is in this, however, another Matter which you may perhaps less attend to than me, and that is Commission, which I am to be under a Necessity of paying, if I am not permitted to remain; for Commission, where it will amount to several Thousand Pounds Sterling, as it would on the Salt I have to dispose of, is an Object too considerable for one of my Fortune to give up, if I can any Ways possibly avoid it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I am extremely sensible of the Justice of your Orders in general, of the Service it will be to the honourable Company, and of the Necessity there is for Steadiness in all the Orders you give, without the Appearance or even Shadow of Partiality to any One: I am sensible also of the Difficulty you labour under, should you be disposed to favour me, though merely in Consideration of the Equity and Justice of my Case; for the malicious and half-informed, who are much the greatest Part of Mankind, are ever ready to impute to wrong Causes, and complain of their Superiors, wherever they see Favours granted to others, in which they are not themselves Sharers; yet if you are as much convinced of the Equity and Reasonableness of my Request, as I would fain hope you and every impartial Person will be who hear and attend to my Circumstances, you will find but little Trouble, I imagine, to obviate every Difficulty of that Kind: Will it not be reckoned Presumption, or may I venture to give a Hint of what occurs to me on that Head: You have appointed private People Agents in the Country for the Affairs of the Society of Trade; and though the Agency of this Place, which will be very considerable, will most probably be intrusted with the Gentlemen of the Factory there, yet, if you thought proper, you might either name me as One of them, or if it were but Clerk to the others I should be entirely satisfied, and esteem it a Favour; or, if that could not be done, I should be contented to be again appointed Surgeon in the Service, with Liberty to remain here till a Vacancy should happen, which I believe will be very soon, *Mr. Fullerton* having informed me, that his Intention is not long to continue here; and this is a Favour which I flatter myself will not be refused me, both in Consideration of what I have already alleged, and in Consideration of my having formerly so long served the honourable Company in that Station, and of my having remained Twice in *India* when I was going Home, Once at the Request of this Presidency, and Once at that of *Fort St. George*.

I shall be willing, in short, to submit to any Thing by which I may be able to prove to you the very great Respect with which I have the Honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, most humble Servant,

*Patna,*  
17th Oct. 1765.

*Archibald Keir.*

N<sup>o</sup> 22.

To Mr. Archibald Keir,

Sir,

I N Answer to your Address to the Select Committee, the 17th Instant, I am directed to acquaint you, That in Testimony of the Regard they pay to your particular Circumstances, the Right honourable the President and Members consent to your remaining at Patna till the First Day of January next, at which Time they will order a Company's Servant to take Charge, and dispose of your Salt to the best Advantage.

This is an Indulgence that has been extended to you alone; and a farther Allowance of Time they cannot grant, without deviating from, and frustrating the Effects of, such an Order, which admits of no Exceptions.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Fort William,  
the 1st November 1765.

(Signed) A. Campbell.  
S. S. C.

N<sup>o</sup> 23.

To Alexander Campbell, Esquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

Sir,

I HAVE this Day received the Letter you favoured me with the 1st Instant, by Order of the Committee; be pleased to return my most humble Acknowledgements to the Right honourable the President and Members for the Indulgence they have granted me; acquaint them at the same Time, that as this, they say, has proceeded from a Testimony of their Regard to my particular

Circumstances, I still flatter myself that the same Regard to Justice and Equity will further engage them to think of some more effectual Method to assist and relieve me; for I am still under the greatest Anxiety with the Thoughts of being obliged to leave this by the 1st January next, which it will be impossible for me to do without a very great Loss and Hurt to my Fortune.

I am, Sir,

Patna, Your most obedient humble Servant,  
9th Nov. 1765. Archibald Keir.

N<sup>o</sup> 24.

To the honourable Lord Clive, President, &amp;c. Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I WAS honoured with your Answer to my Letters the 17th October, by that from your Secretary of the 1st November last; your having therein granted me a small Indulgence, in Testimony of your Regard to the Peculiarity of my Circumstances, and mentioned that you would order a Company's Servant to take Charge of my Affairs: I in return made you my most humble Acknowledgements, and wrote to Mr. Campbell, that, the same Circumstances still subsisting, I still also flattered myself with your further Consideration and Indulgence; but the Month of January being now well advanced, without any Reply, or my hearing of any Orders being issued with regard to me, I must once more take the Liberty to trouble you, that I may know your final and peremptory Resolution, which, when I receive, I am resolved to obey and conform to with the utmost Expedition possible.

My Lord and Gentlemen, When before I had the Honour to address you, I endeavoured to state my Case to you in the best and most distinct Manner I was capable of, which I am afraid was badly enough, seeing that it seems to have had so very little Effect; 'tis true, my Intention then was rather to create your Favour and Indulgence, than with clear and solid Arguments to assert to you the Justice of my Cause: I did imagine, indeed, that it being of itself clear and evident, and

sufficiently understood by your Lordship, &c. I should thus more have recommended myself to your Favour and Protection, than if I had expressed myself otherwise, in claiming a Right, which I have the most just and undoubted Title to; but as it has happened contrary to my Expectations, and that I hope it is not yet too late, I shall beg Leave to represent in the most respectful Manner, that having made a fair and open Bargain with the honourable Company for a large Quantity of Goods, with Condition and Permission at the Time of Purchase to sell and dispose of the same under their Protection, and at any of their Factories; I look upon, and believe all the World besides would look upon it, as a most manifest Violation both of Justice and Equity, should I be deprived of this my just Right, under any Pretence whatever. The Sale was made in the most public Manner; Sic. Rupers, 10 per Hundred Maunds, and 30 and 10 for each Kellary, besides the Price to the Molungus and all other Charges: I purchased and paid for this Salt with Design and Intention to sell the same at Patna, or in any other Factory of the Company, or where the Company's Protection could be of Use to me, a Truth which can never be denied; but to impose a new Condition on a Bargain, to the Prejudice of the Purchaser of it, were only not expressly mentioned in the original Agreement, or contrary to the most manifest Principles either of Law or Equity. Had the honourable President and Agents for the Company, who sold me the Salt, declared to me, soon after my making of the Bargain, that I could not be permitted to sell any at

*Calcutta*, the Company having changed their Presidency, which they have it always in their Power to do, to *Fulio* or any where else, Would it not have been an Act of the greatest Injustice? And, as His Majesty's Justices, my Lord and Gentlemen, I beg to know your Opinion, Whether, in such a Case, I might not have had Remedy against them at Law? But I took the Kallarys, and purchased my Salt of the honourable Company, with Intention and Design of disposing of it at this Factory; so that to hinder me to reside here on so just an Account, when the greatest Part of it is already brought here, and the rest upon the Way by your own Permission, to me appears pretty much the same, as if I had been prevented by those other Gentlemen from residing at *Calcutta*, had I found it most my Interest to dispose of my Goods there.

Your alleging, it is the honourable Company's Order, to which I ought to submit, is an Argument, which, with all due Submission to your Lordship, &c. I apprehend can have but small Weight: For, as the honourable Company, I am well persuaded, never meant but the strictest Justice to every one that they ever dealt with; so if, on the contrary, I or any one else is likely to be hurt by Implication, or accidentally being comprehended in a general Order, it is in your Power, I imagine, to modify and explain them, that no Reflection of that Kind may either be cast on yourselves, or upon the honourable the Court of Directors. But that the honourable Company's Orders are not absolutely so

very strict as not to admit of certain Latitudes, appears the more evident, from the Permissions you have already granted, and which, as I am informed, you still intend to grant, to many who have no such Plea as I have, I believe, for such an Indulgence.

In short, my Lord and Gentlemen, I must beg Leave to declare to you, though with the most profound Respect, that if you still continue in the Resolution of bringing me down, and of tearing me from my Property, and my Right, you will do an Act, which in the Eyes of the World, I am afraid, will have more the Appearance of a Piece of personal Pique, and Dislike to me, than of any more honourable Motive, to myself: It can never be so; for as, to my Knowledge, I have never given any personal Offence to any of you; so, on the contrary, I have ever met with the greatest Civility and Indulgence from all, and even many particular Marks of Friendship from almost every one of you, which I shall always greatly acknowledge; and I must declare, this is what has brought me to the Resolution of strictly complying with your Orders, whatever they may happen to be, or however contrary in my own Judgment they may be, to what I have the justest Reason to look for and expect.

I have the Honour to be, with the most perfect Respect,

My Lord, and Gentlemen,  
*Patna*, Your most obedient humble Servant,  
*Jan. 12, 1766.* *Arch<sup>d</sup> Keir.*

N<sup>o</sup> 25.

To *Samuel Middleton*, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council, at *Patna*.

Gentlemen,  
**W**HEN we reflect upon the very particular Indulgence shewn by this Committee to Mr. *Keir*, in permitting him to remain at *Patna*, so long after the Period fixed for the Return of all the Free Merchants to the Presidency, we cannot help expressing some Astonishment, that he should claim as a Right, what we must consider as a Favour, granted out of mere Regard to his particular Circumstances; such Indulgencies cannot, however, be extended to Individuals, to the Injury of the Company, and the Prejudice of the Public,

without our betraying the Trust reposed in us by the Court of Directors: We therefore not only approve of Mr. *Middleton*'s refusing to grant him a Dufftuck for his Salt, to which he certainly has no better Claim than all other Free Merchants, but we expressly direct, that he shall quit *Patna* by the last Day of *May* next, and that you, or such other of the Company's Servants, residing on the Spot, as he shall appoint, do take Charge of his Salt, and dispose of it upon his Account, to the best Advantage you can, consistently with the Interests of the Country, and of the Society of Trade.

We are,  
*Fort William*, Gentlemen,  
the 13th March 1766. Your most obedient Servants.

N<sup>o</sup> 26.

To the Right honourable *Robert Lord Clive*, President and Governor, &c. and Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
N<sup>o</sup> 38. **M**R. *Archibald Keir* being on the Point of his Departure to *Calcutta*, has applied to us to take Charge of his Salt Concerns here, which, in pursuance of your Orders, we shall do; but must beg Leave to observe to your Lordship, &c. that he expects we will dispose of this Salt free of Commision. We must here remark, that Mr. *Keir* having now the Privi-

lege of a Dufftuck, has an equal Advantage with a Company's Servant residing in *Calcutta*, and from whom Commision is always received; we therefore hope you will think with us, that we have a just Right to demand the same from Mr. *Keir*; but this we submit to your Lordship's, &c. and shall freely follow any Directions you think proper to give on the Occasion; being, with much Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servants,  
*Patna*, *Sam<sup>l</sup> Middleton*,  
the 26th July 1766. *P. M. Dacres.*

N<sup>o</sup> 27.

Extract of Letter from the Directors to the Select Committee, dated 21st November 1766.

14. **W**E are well pleased to remark your Attention to our Orders, in calling down the Free Merchants; their proper Employment is in the Sea Service, as Captains and Supra Cargoes in the Country Trade, or settled as Merchants at *Calcutta*; and if hereafter we find any Infringement of our Orders in this respect, we shall assuredly send for them Home, and testify our

Displeasure at those who have protected them, or permitted them to go up the Country; we are determined to have as few *Europeans* as possible dispersed about the Country; you are to keep to the Spirit of this our Resolution as much as possible, for we have the strongest Sense of the Injuries the Natives have suffered from having *Englishmen* exercising an Authority over them.

N<sup>o</sup> 28.Extract of Company's Letter to *Bengal*, 19 February 1762.

43. **B**Y the Directions we gave in our Letter of the 1st of *April* 1760, we meant that the Nabob should not be defrauded of his Duties by an Abuse of Dufficks, nor private Traders oppressed; but as it appears, by your Advices of the 16th *January* 1761, that the Farming the Duties of the Nabob, or the other Methods we had pointed out, are not practicable, we must therefore acquiesce in their not being carried into Execution; at the same Time we repeat and enforce what we mentioned in our said Letter, that in all Events the Dufficks are to be upon such a just

footing as to secure the Government their Duties, and to enable the Merchant to pay our Customs.

44. It has been intimated, that some of our late Servants had engrossed the Sale of Beetle and Salt, to their own great Emolument, but highly prejudicial to the Interest of the Nabob: As such Measures tend greatly to the embroiling our Affairs, as well as being injurious to the Community, we enjoin you to take the utmost Care that neither our Servants, or any Persons residing under our Protection, have any Concern in such Farms for the future.

N<sup>o</sup> 29.Extract of Company's Letter to *Bengal*, 8th February 1764.

20. **O**NE general Source of the Disputes, Misunderstandings, and Difficulties, which have occurred with the Country Government, appears evidently to have taken its Rise from the unwarrantable and licentious Manner of carrying on the private Trade by the Company's Servants, their Gomastahs, Agents, and others, to the Prejudice of the Subah, both with respect to his Authority, and the Revenues justly due to him; the diverting and taking from his natural Subjects the Trade in the inland Parts of the Country, to which neither we, or any Persons whatsoever dependant upon us, or under our Protection, have any Manner of Right, and consequently endangering the Company's very valuable Privileges: In order therefore to remedy all these Disorders, we do hereby positively order and direct,

21. That from the Receipt of this Letter, a final and effectual End be forthwith put to the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and in all other Articles whatsoever, produced and consumed in the Country; and that all *European* and other Agents or Gomastahs, who have been concerned in such Trade, be immediately ordered down to *Calcutta*, and not suffered to return or be replaced as such by any other Persons.

22. That as our Phirmaund Privileges of being Duty free are certainly confined to the Company's export and

import Trade only, you are to have recourse to and keep within the Liberty therein stipulated and given, as nearly as can possibly be done; but as by the Connivance of the *Bengal* Government, and constant Usage, the Company's Covenant Servants have had the same Benefit as the Company with respect to their export and import Trade, we are willing they should enjoy the same, and that Dufficks be granted accordingly; but herein the most effectual Care is to be taken that no Excesses or Abuses are suffered, upon any Account whatsoever, nor Dufficks granted to any others than our Covenant Servants as aforesaid; however, notwithstanding any of our former Orders, no Writer is to have the Benefit of a Duffick until he has served out his full Time of Five Years in that Station: Free Merchants, and others, are not intitled to, or to have the Benefit of, the Company's Dufficks, but are to pay the usual Duties.

24. We are under the Necessity of giving the foregoing Orders, in order to preserve the Tranquillity of the Country, and Harmony with the Nabob; they are, rather Outlines than complete Directions, which you are to add to, and improve upon, agreeable to the Spirit of and our Meaning in them, as may be necessary to answer the desired Purposes; and if any Person or Persons are guilty of a Contravention of them, be they

they whomsoever they may, if our own Servants, they are to be dismissed the Service; if others, the Company's Protection is to be withdrawn, and you have the Liberty of sending them forthwith to *England*, if you judge the Nature of the Offence requires it.

25. We cannot avoid in this Place taking Notice of the Endeavours of President *Vansittart*, to form a Plan of Regulations; which, though it appeared so advantageous to Individuals, was strongly censured by the Majority of the Council, as not giving them,

according to their Way of judging, a sufficient Scope for their unwarrantable Trade; however we are satisfied of the President's good Intentions; but at the same Time we say, it was not calculated for as to prevent future Misunderstandings with the Subah, and his Government, because thereby an Inland Trade was to be admitted of, which, as has been before observed, would certainly be attended with constant Embroils and Difficulties.

N<sup>o</sup> 30.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 1st June 1764.

54. FOR the Reasons given in our Letter of the 8th of February last, we were then induced to send positive Orders to put a final and effectual End to the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and in all other Articles whatsoever, produced and consumed in the Country: To the Remarks we made in that Letter, we must add one Observation; which is, it appears very extraordinary, that, in a Trade so extremely lucrative to Individuals, the Interest of the Company should not have been at all attended or considered.

55. Those Orders were sent, it is true, before we received the new Treaty you entered into with *Jaffar Aly Cawn*, upon his Re-establishment in the Subahship; in which it is agreed, That the *English* shall carry on their Trade by Means of their own Dutick, free from all Duties, Taxes, and Impositions, in all Parts of the Country, excepting the Article of Salt, on which a Duty of 2½ per Cent. is to be levied on the Rowana, or *Houghly* Market Price; wherein it is further agreed, That the late *Perwanahs* issued by *Cassim Aly Cawn*, granting to all Merchants the Exemption of all Duties for the Space of Two Years, shall be reversed and called in, and the Duties collected as before.

56. These are Terms which appear to be so very injurious to the Nabob, and to the Natives, that they cannot in the very Nature of them tend to any Thing but the producing general Heart-burnings and Dissatisfaction; and consequently, there can be little Reason to expect the Tranquillity of the Country can be permanent: The Orders therefore, in our said Letter of the 8th of February, are to remain in Force until a more equitable and satisfactory Plan can be formed and adopted; which, as it is impossible for us to frame here, destitute as we are of the Informations and Lights necessary to guide us in settling such an important Affair,

57. You are therefore hereby ordered and directed, as soon after the Receipt of this as may be convenient, to

consult the Nabob as to the Manner of carrying on the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and the other Articles produced and consumed in the Country, which may be most to his Satisfaction and Advantage, the Interest of the Company, and likewise of the Company's Servants.

58. You are thereupon to form a proper and equitable Plan for carrying on the said Trade; and transmit the same to us, accompanied by such Explanations, Observations, and Remarks, as may enable us to give our Sentiments and Directions thereupon in a full and explicit Manner.

59. In doing this, as before observed, you are to have a particular Regard to the Interest and intire Satisfaction of the Nabob, both with respect to his Revenues, and the proper Support of his Government: In short, this Plan must be settled with his free Will and Consent, and in such a Manner as not to afford any just Grounds for Complaint.

60. In the next Place, the utmost Care and Attention must be bestowed, in forming the said Plan, that in some proper Mode or Shape a just and equitable Consideration be secured for the Company.

61. If any Inconveniences shall be apprehended to arise to the Company's Investments, upon carrying on such an Inland Trade, you are to give us your full Thoughts thereupon, and in what Manner they may be obviated.

62. You are to give us your impartial and unbiassed Thoughts also, whether the carrying on this Inland Trade may affect the just Rights and Privileges of the *French*, *Dutch*, or any *Europeans*, and tend thereby to draw on any national Altercations and Embroils; which are by all Means to be avoided in forming the said Plan: Therefore you are to be particularly careful to prevent these, or any Evils of the like Kind.

N<sup>o</sup> 31.

Fort William General Consultation, the 25th January 1765.

WE observe the Sentiments and Orders of the Court, on the Subject of the Inland Trade, contained in the 54 and subsequent Paragraphs to the 64: But as Lord *Cirou*, and the other Gentlemen, may

be now so soon expected to arrive, it is agreed to defer, for the present at least, any further Proceedings thereon.

Fort William Select Consultation, 17th October 1764.

The *English* Gomastahs in the Districts of *Dacca*, *Rungamatty*, *Chilmary*, and *Bakergunga*, &c. force Tobacco and other Goods upon the Talookdars and Ryotts, whereby the Country is desolated, and a very heavy Loss falls upon the Sircar; it is proper that a Stop should be every where put to this Oppression, that the Country may flourish, and the Inhabitants may pay their Rents in Security, and my Revenues may not suffer.

The Poor of this Country, who used always to deal in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, &c. are now deprived of their daily Bread by the Trade of the *Europeans*; whereby no Kind of Advantage accrues to the Company, and the Government's Revenues are greatly injured.

IN consequence of these Representations from the Nabob, and the Company's Orders in their Letter of the 8th of February 1764,

It is Resolved, That the Inland Trade; that is, the Articles produced in One Part of the Country, to be carried for Sale and Consumption to another, shall in general be prohibited, with such Exceptions as shall appear to the Board may be admitted, without the Danger of creating Disputes with the Government, or depriving the Nabob of his just Rights.

After mature Consideration of the Subject, and Recollection of all the Disputes that have happened, and the Complaints which have been made by the Government since this Inland Trade has been taken up; we think that One, and One only Exception can be made, consistently with the Spirit of the Company's Orders; and that is, that it may be permitted to the Company's Servants to send Salt and Beetle Nut for Sale to the Factories of *Paina*, *Cossimbuzar*, and *Dacca*, or the capital Cities of *Paina*, *Moorshedabad*, and *Dacca*, thereunto adjoining, paying to the Country Government, on the Article of Salt, the Duties agreed on with the Nabob in the last Treaty, and on the Article of Beetle Nut, a like Duty of 2<sup>d</sup> per Cent. on the Price of the *Chundapore* Market, and a Company's Duffick shall be given them along with the Company's Rowanna.

Our Reasons for thinking this Exception may be admitted, are,

First, With respect to the Objection of Disputes: Among the many Instances we have had, we do not find any touching the Sales of Salt or Beetle Nut, at any of these Places.

Secondly, With respect to the Objection of the Nabob's Revenues: Since we relinquish every Advantage that he ceded by his Treaty of last Year, with regard to this Trade, we may, without Imputation of Injustice, reserve so much as is here meant, unless any Inconvenience, which at present we do not foresee, should be found to arise from it.

But it shall be expressly forbid to all the Company's Servants, and others refusing under the Company's Protection, to raise Salt Works (as Collaries or Toffals) or make Salt upon the Grounds, in any Part except in the Territories appertaining to the Company. All Claims to any such Grounds shall be immediately relinquished; and Application will be made to the Nabob, on behalf of the Claimants, to order the Zemindars to discharge in Money such Balances of former Years, and Advances for this Season, as may appear to be justly due, upon Examination of the Accounts with the Molungees.

As from a Delay in executing this Resolution, the Zemindars may pretend and complain of the Loss of the Season, for carrying on their Business, and raise Difficulties in adjusting the Accounts;

Agreed, That the Resolution be recited, in Letters to be immediately wrote to *Dacca*, *Chittagong*, *Midnapore*, and *Burdwan*, with Directions to carry the same into Execution, so far as regards their respective Factories; And

Ordered, That the Drafts of these Orders be entered after Consultation.

The Company's Servants, who shall trade in Salt to the Places herein before expressed, shall take the greatest Care that their Gomastahs do deliver up the Duffick to the Company's Chief, and the Rowanna to the Naib of the Government, on the Salt's being landed at the Factory or City to which it is consigned; our Intentions herein being to enforce our Resolutions, that the Salt shall be actually, and *bona fide*, sold at One of the fore-said Factories or Cities, and not circulated through the Country, under the Influence of the *English* Name, or Duffick.

To the End that these Regulations, when published, may take Effect within a reasonable Time, so that on the one Hand the Merchants may not suffer from their present Engagements in the Articles of this Trade; and on the other, that an Opening may not be left for the Continuance of this Trade longer than may be necessary for the finishing those Engagements;

It is Agreed and Ordered, That the Secretary do give public Notice of them, both here and at the subordinate Factories; forbidding from this Day, all Company's Servants, Free Merchants, and others, residing under the Company's Protection, to make any new Purchases, or enter into any new Contracts which may involve them further in the prohibited Trade; and directing them to deliver in, within the Space of Seven Days, an Account of the Goods of this Trade that they may have remaining at every Place, with the intended Place of their Destination for Sale; upon an Examination of which, a reasonable Time will be allowed for concluding such Sales.

Although we imagine the Refrain we have now laid upon the Inland Trade will put an End, for the most Part, to that unjust Manner of Dealing called Burja, or Guchowt; yet, lest it should be ever attempted in the Sale of any Articles of licensed Trade, it is hereby

Ordered, in the strictest Manner, That no Person trading under the Company's Protection shall, on any Pretence, force the Merchants or People of the Country to buy Goods which they do not want, or to give a Price above the Market; and whoever shall be found to be guilty of infringing this Order, shall be punished with the utmost Rigour.

Agreed therefore, That the Secretary do also make this Resolution public; and that the Nabob be desired to make it known to his Officers, directing them to complain to the nearest *English* Factory, if any such Attempts should be made by *English* Gomastahs within their Jurisdiction.

Upon the Whole, it is agreed to represent to the Nabob, That all our Attempts to reform the Grievances he complains of will be ineffectual, unless his Officers at the several Chokies and Custom-houses, will be attentive to let no Boats pass with Merchandise, without first seeing the Company's Duffick, as directed in the Resolution on Article Second: And further, as we are informed

informed that he has indulged some *English* Gentlemen, Free Merchants, with General Duticks, which will give them a Privilege of Trade far more extensive than we shall now permit, even to Company's Servants, it

will be absolutely necessary that he do withdraw all such Indulgences, and refrain from granting any in future; otherwise these Regulations can be of no Effect.

Nº 33.

Fort William, the 10th August 1765.

At a Select Committee;

P R E S E N T,

W. B. Sumner, Esquire, President,  
Harry Vereß, Esquire.

**I**N Conformity to the honourable Company's Orders, contained in their Letter of the 1st of June 1764, the Committee now proceed to take under their Consideration the Subject of the Inland Trade, in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, the same having been frequently discoursed of at former Meetings, and Mr. Sumner having lately collected the Opinions of the absent Members at large on every Circumstance; It is now Agreed and Resolved, That the following Plan for conducting this Trade shall be carried into Execution; the Committee esteeming the same the most correspondent to the Company's Orders, and conducive to the Ends which they have in View, when they require that the Trade shall be put upon such a Footing as may appear most equitable for the Benefit of their Servants, least liable to produce Disputes with the Country Government, and wherein their own Interest, and that of the Nabob, shall at the same Time be properly attended to and considered.

First, That the whole Trade shall be carried on by an exclusive Company formed for that Purpose, and confining of all those who may be deemed justly intitled to share; that a proper Fund shall be raised, by a Loan at Interest, for the Supply and Support of the same, and that it shall commence in the Month of September ensuing, or as soon after as may be found most convenient.

Secondly, That the Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, produced in, or imported into, *Bengal*, shall be purchased by this established Company; and public Advertisment shall be issued, strictly prohibiting all other Persons whatever, who are dependant on our Government, to deal in those Article.

Thirdly, That Application shall be made to the Nabob, to issue the like Prohibition to all his Officers and Subjects of the Districts, where any Quantity of either of those Articles is manufactured or produced.

Fourthly, That the Salt shall be purchased by Contract, on the most reasonable Terms, giving the Preference to the Factories of *Dacca*, *Chittagong*, *Burdwan*, and *Midnapoor*, for the Produce of their respective Districts; to the Phouddar of *Houghley*, and the other Zemindars, for the Produce of *Jugellee*, *Tumlook*, *Mysdale*, &c.; and to such Persons as may offer the most reasonable Proposals, for the Quantity produced in the *Calcutta* Lands.

Fifthly, That the Beetle Nut and Tobacco shall, in like Manner, be purchased by Contract, under such Terms and Conditions, as, upon proper Enquiry, shall appear to the Managers to be most conformable to the Interest of the concerned.

Sixthly, That the Contractors for the Salt shall agree to deliver it at certain fixed Places, at a stipulated Rate per  $\frac{1}{2}$  Maunds, comprehending such an Advance upon their Contracts with the Zemindars and Molunges, as

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may be esteemed an Equivalent to their Risk, Trouble, and bad Debts.

Seventhly, That as the Advances will be made by the Contractors to the Zemindars, &c. at certain Periods of the Season, in the usual Manner, so shall the Advance from the public Company to the Contractors be made in Proportion thereto.

Eighthly, That the Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, thus purchased by the public Company, shall be transported to a certain Number of Places for Sale, to be there, and there only, disposed of by their Agents; and that the Country Merchants may then become the Purchasers, and again transport the Articles whither they think they have the greatest Prospect of Profit.

That by this Mean, not only the frequent Oppressions the Inhabitants of the Country have suffered, by *Europeans* having Permission to traverse to every Place for the Sale of those Commodities, will be put a Stop to, but by thus reserving to the Natives and Merchants a competent Share of the Profits, both in the Purchase and Sale, we may hope for the good Effect of removing the general Odium that has prevailed, from our seeking to deprive them of every Part of that Trade.

Ninthly, That as it is apprehended some Difficulty will arise in securing the Produce of the *Dacca* and *Chittagong* Districts, by Reason of the Property of the Lands being scattered in a Number of Hands, all dependant on the Government; it is Agreed, That Application shall be made to the Nabob for Perwannas on the several Zemindars of those Districts, as well as those of *Houghley*, &c. strictly ordering and requiring them to contract for all the Salt that can be made on their Lands with the *English* alone, and forbidding the Sale to any other Person or Persons whatsoever.

Tenthly, That the Honourable Company shall either share in this Trade as Proprietors, or receive an annual Duty upon it, as may appear to be most for their Interest, when considered with their other Engagements and Demands at this Presidency.

Eleventhly, That the Nabob shall in like Manner be considered, as may be judged most proper, either as a Proprietor, or by an annual Nuzzerana, to be computed upon inspecting a Statement of his Duties on Salt in former Years.

Twelfthly, That the Manner in which the honourable Company and the Nabob shall be considered being once determined, the Remainder of this Trade shall be divided amongst the Company's Servants, arranged under certain Classes, and each Class to share a certain Proportion of the Capital Stock.

Thirteenthly, That a Committee of Trade shall be appointed to receive the Management of this Plan, and prosecute the same in all its Branches; and that they shall be immediately authorized to take Measures for raising the Fund at Interest, and to receive Proposals and settle the Contracts; and further, that for their Assistance in this Work, a Person shall be appointed in the Quality of their Secretary and Accountant: The foregoing Regulations, the Select Committee judge, will be found a sufficient Ground Work for commencing this Trade, to be improved hereafter as Circumstances may occur and direct; and it is therefore Agreed, That they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade,

as soon as they are appointed, with Instructions to proceed in raising the Money and making the Contracts.

The Points contained in the 10th, 11th, and 12th Regulations, as their not being adjusted need be no Impediment to the Prosecution of the Business, so the Committee esteem them of so much Importance, that the Settlement of them should be delayed until the absent Members return to *Calcutta*, and they can be deliberated on at a full Committee:—Agreed therefore, That the Committee of Trade be also advised of this Resolution; and that they shall be hereafter informed of the Distribution which may be settled, with any other Regulations which may occur relative thereto, for their Government.

Mr. *Sumner* acquaints the Committee, that, being apprised of the Intention contained in the Third and Ninth Regulations, he desired Mr. *Sykes*, when he lately went up to *Muvadabad*, to apply to the Nabob for the necessary Purwannahs for authorizing and facilitating this

Trade, and that he has accordingly received from that Gentleman, Perwannahs to this Purpose, being 106 in Number; the same he now presents to the Committee, together with several Papers of Information which he has collected, regarding the Produce of the different Districts, and the Conditions that Salt can be contracted for.

Ordered, That they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade for their Guidance.

Taking now into Consideration the Appointment of this Committee of Trade, the Select Committee are of Opinion, that it should be composed of Two Members of their Body, and Two Gentlemen of the Council.

Agreed therefore, That we recommend to the Council to appoint Two of their Members to be joined with Two of the Committee, to constitute this Board, and receive Charge of the Plan; and at the same Time to appoint a proper Person to the Office of Secretary and Accountant.

## N° 34.

*Fort William General Consultation, the 12th August 1765.*

THE President lays before the Board an Extract of the Proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 10th Instant, himself and Mr. *Versell* present; containing Considerations on the Company's Orders respecting the Inland Trade, and some Regulations determined on in Consequence, as the Ground Work of a Plan for carrying it on in future.

And the same have been perused.

Messieurs *Leycester* and *Gray* enter thereupon the following Dissents.

I dissent to the Powers assumed by the Gentlemen of the Committee, of fixing any Regulations for the carrying on of the Inland Trade, independant of, and without consulting, the Gentlemen of the Council, as it is a Power by no means delegated to them by the Court of Directors; who point out in very express Terms, that the only Object of those Powers lodged with the Select Committee is the restoring of Peace and Tranquillity to the Provinces, then supposed in a very distracted State. It is needless for me, at present, to give my Sentiments of the Regulations themselves, as the Committee have already determined on the Plan.—And as it is on all Occasions expedient for the Members of the Board to unite in carrying on the Public Business, so I declare myself ready, notwithstanding this Dissent, to share any Trouble that this System may occasion to the other Gentlemen of the Council, and to co-operate with my best Endeavours, that the intended Scheme may be carried into Execution with all the Benefits that can possibly result from it.

Mr. *Gray* dissents from the Proceedings of the Committee, this Day laid before the Board: As the Orders for the Regulation of the Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, are immediately directed to the whole Board, he thinks no Part of it are sufficiently authorized, without the Concurrence of the Whole, to carry them into Execution:—He means however, notwithstanding this his Dissent, cheerfully to obey the Orders of the Board, in his Appointment of a Member of the Committee of Trade.

These Dissents having been entered;

Messieurs *Sumner* and *Versell* offer their Services, as Members of the Committee for carrying on this Trade, upon the Plan laid down.

And as Mr. *Playdell* is appointed Chief of the Factory of *Chittagong*, and Mr. *Burdett* has intimated his Intention of resigning the Service this Season;

Messieurs *Leycester* and *Gray* are therefore appointed Members from the Board.

Agreed, That we address those Gentlemen, constituting them the Committee accordingly, for the Management of this Trade, and transmitting them the Regulations of the Select Committee, with the several Papers accompanying, for their Government therein; authorizing them, at the same Time, to correspond with the subordinate Factories, and to pursue all such Measures as may, conformably to the Plan, appear to them eligible and proper: And

That we give the necessary Advice and Directions, in consequence, to the different Factories.

## N° 35.

*Extract of a Letter to Afcianus William Senior, Esquire, Chief, &c. Council at Cossimbuzar.*

Gentlemen,  
WE are to inform you, that we have now established certain Regulations for conducting the Inland Trade in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, a

greed to Orders received from the Court of Directors, and that the same are to be immediately carried into Execution by a Committee of Trade, consisting of Messieurs *Sumner*, *Versell*, *Leycester*, and *Gray*, who are for



for that Purpose authorized to correspond with the several Subordinate Factories, and to take all such Measures as may appear to them proper; and we therefore direct that you do pay a due Regard to whatever Instructions you may from Time to Time receive from

them, in Matters relative to this Trade, and address them accordingly in Return.

We are, &c

Fort William  
the 12th of August 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 36.

Fort William Select Committee Proceedings, 18 September 1765.

**R**ESUMING the Consideration of the Plan for carrying on the Inland Trade, in order to determine with respect to the Company, and the Classes of Proprietors, the Committee are unanimously of Opinion, that whatever Surplus Monies the Company may find themselves possessed of, after discharging their several Demands at this Presidency, the same will be employed more to their Benefit and Advantage in supplying largely that valuable Branch of their Commerce, the China Trade, and in assisting the Wants of their other Settlements; and that it will be more for their Interest to be considered as Superiors of this Trade, and receive a handsome Duty upon it, than to be engaged as Proprietors in the Stock: Bestowing therefore all due Attention to the Circumstance of the Company's being at the same Time the Head and Masters of our Service, and now come into the Place of the Country Government, by his Majesty's Royal Grant of the Dewannee; It is agreed, that the Inland Trade in the above Articles, shall be subject to a Duty to the Company, after the following Rates, which are calculated according to the best Judgment we can form of the Value of the Trade in general, and the Advantage which may be expected to accrue from it to the Proprietors.

On Salt, 35 per Cent. valuing the 100 Maunds at the Rate of 90 *Rs*. and in Consideration herof the present Collaree Duty to be abolished.

On Beetle Nut 10 per Cent. on the Prime Cost.

On Tobacco 25 per Cent. on Ditto.

By this Calculation, we hope, may be produced a clear Revenue to the Company, of at least *£*. 100,000 Sterling per Annum; and should it appear, upon further Experience of the Trade, that the Profits will admit of an Increase in these Rates of Duties, we hereby resolve that a fair and impartial Representation of the same shall be made to our honourable Masters, in order to receive their Directions, as it is our fixed Determination to render them all possible Satisfaction on this Point.

With respect to the Proprietors, it is agreed and resolved, That they shall be arranged into Three Classes; that each Class shall be intitled to so many Shares in the Stock, and that a certain Capital Stock shall be agreed upon, in order to ascertain the Value of each Share.

According to this Scheme, it is agreed, That Class First shall consist of the Governor, Five Shares;—The Second, Three Shares;—The General, Three Shares;—Ten Gentlemen of Council, each Two Shares; Twenty Shares:—Two Colonels, each Two Shares; Four Shares:—In all Thirty-five Shares for the First Class.

That Class Second shall consist of One Chaplain, Fourteen Junior Merchants, and Three Lieutenant Colonels; in all Eighteen Persons: Who shall each be entitled to One Third of a Counsellor's Proportion, or Two Thirds of One Share; and which makes in all Twelve Shares for the Second Class. We mean always to include in this Number such Junior Merchants as the Company have thought proper to fix in the Service; who, as well as the Factors in the next Class, that may be restrained from rising as Covenant Servants, shall, however, be entitled to their full Share of the Advantages of this Trade.

That Class Third shall consist of Thirteen Factors, Four Majors, Four First Surgeons at the Presidency, Two First Surgeons at the Army, One Secretary to the Council, One Sub Accomptant, One Persian Translator, and One Sub Export Warehouse Keeper; in all Twenty-seven Persons: Who shall each be intitled to One Sixth of a Counsellor's Proportion, or One Third of One Share; and which makes in all Eight Shares for the Third Class.

It is necessary, however, to be observed, That by this Arrangement, it is intended, and it is accordingly hereby ordered, That Twelve Shares in this Trade shall be allotted to Eighteen Persons, composed of the First, Senior, and Junior, Merchants, Lieutenant Colonels, and Chaplain or Chaplains; all exceeding that Number of those Ranks, must stand excluded until they can be included in it; and Chaplains, be they more or less, to be reckoned only as One Senior or Junior Merchant.

That Eight Shares in this Trade shall in like Manner always be allotted to Twenty-four Persons, composed of the Senior Factors, Majors, Surgeons, and the Three Officers above specified; all exceeding that Number of those Ranks, are not to share till they can be included in it.

The Committee have thus settled the Arrangement of the Classes, and the Shares in the Stock; but they leave to the Committee of Trade to ascertain the Amount of the Capital, as they must be the most competent Judges of what Fund will be required.

That the Trade may meet with no Interruption, and for the better regulating the same, the Committee of Trade may, from Time to Time, form By Laws, which having been communicated, approved, and signed to by the Body of Proprietors, they (the Committee) shall be empowered to enforce and carry into Execution.

That the Books of the Society shall be opened the First of every September, and closed the 31st of the following August; that for the present Year, all Persons, who shall from this Time be deemed Proprietors, and whose Names shall be enrolled by the Committee of Trade, agreeable to this Scheme of Distribution, shall be intitled to their Proportion of Profits arising on the Trade, during the Course of the Year, whether Absence or Death should ensue; and so in all future Years, after the Names of the Persons, who may compose the Classes, shall have been regularly enrolled.

Resolved, That no Person shall share in a double Capacity, and receive a Benefit at the same Time from his Rank in the Service, and from such Employment as he may happen to enjoy.

Ordered, That a Copy of these Proceedings be prepared, and laid before the Council, that they may transmit the same, with their Directions, to the Committee of Trade.

Clive,  
W<sup>m</sup> B. Sumner,  
John Carnai,  
H. Verelst,  
Fr<sup>is</sup> Sykes.

# 512 1773. FOURTH REPORT *on the Nature, State,*

N<sup>o</sup> 37.

*Fort William General Consultation, the 25th September 1765.*

THE President lays before the Board a Copy of the Proceedings of the Select Committee, containing their Conclusion of the Plan for the Inland Trade, with respect to the Company, and the different

Classes of the Proprietors—And the same having been perused,

Agreed, It be transmitted to the Committee of Trade, with Instructions to proceed agreeably thereto.

N<sup>o</sup> 38.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council at *Fort William*.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

WE have had the Honour to receive your Letter of the 25th ult. with the Conclusion of the Select Committee's Plan for carrying on the Inland Trade: We shall pay due Attention thereto; and we have in Consequence enrolled the Proprietors of the Stock for the present Year.

The Office of our Secretary and Accomptant being vacated, by Mr. *Graham's* Appointment to *Midnapore*, we request your Lordship, &c. will grant us Permission to appoint Mr. *Lawrell* in his room.

We must also take this Opportunity to request your

Permission to nominate Agents for transacting the Business of the Society in the different Parts of the Country. We shall be very careful to make Choice of the most unexceptionable Persons for this Purpose; and we shall cause them to enter into such Engagements you shall think proper to prescribe for regulating their Conduct, and to prevent their interfering with the Business of the Country Government.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servants,

*Wm. B. Sumner,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*R. Leycester,*  
*George Gray.*

*Fort William,*  
*21st October 1765.*

N<sup>o</sup> 39.

*Fort William Select Committee, 29th October 1765.*

HAVING perused a Letter from the Committee of Trade, desiring Leave to appoint a Secretary in the Room of Mr. *Graham*, and Agents to conduct the Business of the Society in the different Parts of the Country;

Agreed, we write them, That we entirely approve of their Choice of Mr. *Lawrell* for Secretary and Accomptant.—Also, That as they seem to think the Business of the Society will require *European* Agents, we consent to

their nominating Persons of approved Character, who shall enter into such Engagements and Restrictions as we may judge necessary, for regulating their Conduct, and securing the Country from Disturbance, and the Natives from Injury or Molestation.

We also consent that they appoint Four *European* Agents to build Boats for the Society at *Nabob Gunge* and *Baker Gunge*, who shall enter into similar Engagements.

N<sup>o</sup> 40.

To *Wm. Brightwell Sumner*, Esq; and the Gentlemen of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

YOUR Letter of the 21st Instant to the President and Council, having been referred to the Select

Committee, we highly approve your Intention to appoint Mr. *Lawrell* to succeed Mr. *Graham* in the Office of your Secretary and Accomptant.

We likewise consent that you nominate Agents for transacting the Business of the Society in the different Parts of the Country, since you consider this Measure

as necessary to the due Execution of your Plan; but we must request that all these Gentlemen must be Persons of unblemished Character, that they be approved by the Select Committee, and bound down by such Engagements and Restrictions as we may judge necessary to secure the Country against Disturbances, the Natives from Injury and Molestation, and the Government from future Cause of Complaint.

We are with great Esteem,  
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants.

Fort William,  
the 1st Nov. 1765.

N° 41.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President, &c.  
Members Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

WE have had the Honour to receive your Favour of this Date. In Consequence of the Permission therein contained, we have appointed the following Gentlemen to reside as Agents for transacting the Business of the Society of Trade, at the undermentioned Places; viz.

Mr. Hugh Bailin,	to reside at	Gualparab.
Charles Blumer,	---	Dinapore.
Pier Lathicallier,	---	Durbunga.
Ken Lewis,	---	Rungpore.
The Coffey,	---	Serbit.
W <sup>m</sup> Benley,	---	Carragolab.
J <sup>m</sup> Robinson,	---	Nabob Gunst.
Hargrave,	---	Chitmarie.

W<sup>m</sup> Hahby,  
Harry Grant,

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The Places of Residence of the Two last-named Gentlemen will be determined hereafter, as well as what other Places it may be thought necessary to send Agents to.

We hope that this Arrangement will meet with your Lordship's, &c. Approbation; and we request you will as soon as possible transmit us the Regulations you would propose for the Conduct of those, and such other Agents as we may have Occasion to appoint.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Fort William,  
1st Nov. 1765.

W. B. Sumner,  
H. Verelst,  
George Gray.

N° 42.

Letter to William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, and the Members of the Committee of Trade, dated Fort William, the 5th November 1765.

Gentlemen,

YOU have represented to us, that the Society for conducting the Inland Trade will derive very particular Advantages from entrusting the Management of their Concerns to European Agents; and we have for this Reason consented, under certain Limitations, to a Measure which we could never otherwise approve.—Giving Permission to Europeans, not in the Company's covenanted Service, to reside in different and remote Parts of the Country, opens to large a Field for Abuse and Oppression, and is in itself so opposite to the express Injunctions of the Court of Directors, to contrary to the Orders we have so lately issued, and so alarming to the Natives in general, that such Indulgence can only be justified by Necessity.

To obviate therefore, in the best Manner possible, the Inconveniences to be apprehended, we think it is our indispensable Duty, to lay such Restrictions on the Conduct of the Gentlemen, who shall be employed in this Service, as appears to us best calculated to prevent future Cause of Complaint, and secure the Peace and Repose of the Country.

To this End, we require that all European Agents, on whatever Service employed by the Society, do subscribe to the following Restrictions before they leave the Presidency, and bind themselves in a penal Bond of 30,000 Rupees, to a strict Observance of the same, which Penalty shall be levied on Conviction of their

Breach of Agreement, and applied at the Discretion of the Board, or of this Committee.

The Restrictions we would enjoin, are the following, which, we think, ought to be specified in the penal Bonds, or drawn out into formal Instruments, to be signed and sealed before Witnesses, by the several Agents.

1st. That they carry on no Trade or Commerce, either as Agents or Principals, except for the Benefit of the whole Society of Inland Trade.

2d. That they lend no Money to the Zemindars, the public Officers, or other Persons any Way connected with the Government.

3d. That they assume to themselves no judicial Power or Authority whatever; but in all Cases of Difference or Dispute between them and the Natives, apply for Redress to the Country Government, and in Case of Delay or Refusal, to the Select Committee.

4th. That they neither interfere, directly or indirectly, with any Business relative to Government, or by any Means whatever give Interruption to the Collections, or just Cause of Complaint to the Administration; but confine themselves scrupulously and strictly to the Sale of the Salt, Tobacco, and Beetle Nut, committed to their Charge, making such Returns of the Produce as the Society may require, and expecting no other Reward of their Services than the stated Allowance by Commission on the above Articles.

514 1773. **FOURTH REPORT on the Nature, State,**

These, Gentlemen, are the principal Restrictions which we think necessary, to avoid Contradiction in our own Resolutions, and to secure the Company from Injury, the Ministers from Occasion of Complaint, and the Natives from Insult and Oppression.

We are, with great Respect,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servants.

N° 43.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President, &c.  
Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

**T**HE following Persons,

Messrs. *Hugh Baillie,  
Charles Blomer,  
Pitt Lesbeilleur,  
Tom Lewis,  
John Corfar,  
William Bentley,  
John Robinson,  
James Hargrave,*

Agents for transacting the Society of Trade's Business, being about to proceed to their different Stations, have applied for Leave to dispose of the Salt now on Hand, belonging to private Traders.

We think it will be for the Advantage of the Society, that such Salt as is now on Hand, should be sold by your Agents, on Account of the Persons to whom it belongs, before the Salt of the Society gets up; but as there is an Article in the Restrictions transmitted to us by your Lordship, &c. which forbids their receiving any private Commissions, we request you will grant us Permission to insert a Clause, allowing them to dispose of the Salt, to prevent their Forfeit of the Penalty they would otherwise be subject to.

We are,  
My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servants,

*Fort William,  
8th January 1766.*

*Wm. B. Sumner,  
H. Warr,  
W. Senior.*

N° 44.

*Fort William Select Consultation, the 9th January 1766.*

**R**eceived a Letter from the Committee of Trade, requesting Leave for their Agents to dispose of the Balances of Salt belonging to private Merchants, now on Hand, which they imagine will conduce to the Interest of the Society.

Agreed, We acquaint the Committee of Trade, that we grant their Request, in Consideration they think it will be a public Benefit.

N° 45.

To *William Brightrivell Sumner, Esquire, &c.* Members of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

N° 1. **W**E consent that the Balance of Salt belonging to private Merchants, which are now on Hand, shall be disposed of by your Agents, at the several Stations to which they are appointed, since you are of Opinion this Measure will conduce to the Benefit

of the Society; but we must desire they will not think of extending this Privilege beyond the particular Article here specified.

We remain,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servants.

*Fort William,  
January 9th 1766.*

N<sup>o</sup> 46.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. WE have now the Honour to transmit the Sequel of those Proceedings of the Select Committee which were dispatched the 30th September by the *Admiral Stevens*, and also a Duplicate of our Letter of that Date.

2. The Conjectures we, then formed, with respect to the System: which the Committee found it necessary to adopt, have in the Event, corresponded to our warmest Expectations, and it is with extreme Satisfaction we can assure you, that a happy Prospect is daily opening to our View of Security and Opulence to the Company; Money flowing into your Treasury; Contentment expressed by the Country Government; and Peace diffusing the Blessings throughout every District of the Nabob's Dominions, are to us the most pleasing Testimonies of the Rectitude of the Measures we pursued when the late Grants were obtained: The more we reflect on the Situation of your Affairs, the stronger appear the Reasons for accepting the Dewanny of these Provinces, by which alone we could establish a Power sufficient to perpetuate the Possessions we hold, and the Influence we enjoy. While the Nabob acted in Quality of Collector for the Mogul, the Means of supporting our Military Establishment depended upon his Pleasure; in the most critical Situation, while we stood balancing on the extreme Border of Destruction, his stipulated Payments were slow and deficient, his Revenues were often withheld by dissaffected Rajahs and turbulent Zemindars, who despised the Weakness of his Government; or they were squandered in Profusion, and dissipated in Corruption, the never failing Symptoms of a declining Constitution and a feeble Administration; whence we were frequently disappointed of those Supplies, upon the punctual Receipt of which depended the very Existence of the Company in Bengal.

We cannot indeed look back without Horror upon that desperate Crisis to which your Affairs were reduced, when a mutinous Spirit prevailed among your Troops; when Dissentions distracted your Consultations; and a powerful Enemy was invading the Provinces, to seize and desolate your Possessions, and probably extirpate your Servants: To us it evidently appears, there remained but the Alternative to advance, as we have done, and grasp at the whole Power, or to shrink back into our primitive Condition of simple Merchants, to abandon our Possessions, disband our Forces, and rest our future Hopes on the Clemency of Princes, who will not easily forget or forgive the Superiority we have so long maintained. In a Word, this last Measure was in itself impracticable; for we must observe, although with much Regret, that the Misconduct of Individuals hath rendered the *English Name* so odious, that we are no longer secure than while our Hands are armed for the Defence of our Lives and Property.

3. The several Statements, that go Numbers in our Packet, shew clearly the Amount of Revenues to be collected this Year into the Treasury, exclusive of those issuing from the Provinces of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong*, the *Calcutta* Lands, and all your former Possessions, at present they stand encumbered with a Variety of superfluous Charges, which we hope to reduce, when we come to adjust the Col-

lections of the ensuing Year, but we thought it advisable to avoid introducing Innovations, which might create Disgust and Disaffection, at so early a Period of our Government. The nett Balance, amounting to 212 Lacks of *Sicca Rupees*, or 2,862,000 Pounds Sterling, will be more readily paid; that the Ministers and Officers of the Government can have nothing to plead in Excuse for Deficiencies; and we have Reason to believe it will not fall short of the stated Amount. This Balance is abundantly sufficient to supply your *China Trade*, provide for our own Investment, and defray all the Expenses of our Civil and Military Establishment. Whatever Surplus may remain in the Treasury, after the Stipends to the King and Nabob are discharged, and all other more immediate Demands are answered, this, together with the Revenues of *Burdwan*, &c. shall then be applied to relieve the Wants of the other Presidencies, to pay off your Bonds, and to such other Purposes as may appear to us most conducive to your Interest.

4. Mr. Sykes, who was some Time since appointed Resident at the Durbar, and Supervisor of the Collections, hath now taken Charge of the Factory at *Cossimbuzar*, upon Mr. Senior's Application for Leave to return to *Europe*; the great Diligence he has exerted in settling the Revenues, and forming the Statements, as well as Attention shewn to the other several Objects of Administration, afford us the utmost Reason to be highly satisfied with his Conduct. He is daily making Remittances, the First Fruits of the Collections, to the Treasury; whereby we are already enabled to set apart a Supply of 24 Laaks for your *China Investment*; 12 of which are now under Dispatch for *Canton*, the Remainder will be sent in the Month of *February*, to *Madras*, to be forwarded from thence to *China* by the earliest Conveyance: When the Collections of the Year are closed, we have directed Mr. Sykes to enquire strictly into the Balances to the Government, and to use every possible Endeavour to recover them, as we entertain the most flattering Hope, that from these Arrears will arise a Fund sufficient to discharge all the Public Demands on the late Nabob, for which your Honour may stand any Way engaged.

5. Notwithstanding all these immense Revenues, of which the Company is actually possessed, we must earnestly request your serious Attention to the Consequences of our impoverishing the Country by such considerable annual Exports of Treasure to *China*. We must also recommend, that you devise some Method of enabling your Servants, and the Inhabitants of the Settlement, to remit their own Fortunes, and the Effects of deceased Persons in their Hands, by some other Channel than that of Bills on *France* and *Holland*: You are now in a Situation which will never require your receiving private Effects into the Treasury, to be able to complete your own Investment: Your Collections are adequate to every Purpose and Demand which we can foresee; the Governor and Council could not therefore, with any Propriety, subject you to the Inconvenience of answering Bills, to the Amount of Forty or Fifty Laaks, merely for the Benefit of your Servants, and suffer your own Money to lie dead and unappropriated in the Treasury; indeed we were particularly cautious of drawing largely for this Year, in order that you might be able to discharge your more immediate and pressing Engagements at Home; yet should the Necessity continue, of remitting private Property by Foreign Funds, the *French* and *Dutch* will not only be enabled thereby to provide early and valuable Investments,

vestments, but the Provinces will also be deprived of a very considerable Addition to the current Specie, which those Nations will otherwise be obliged to import every Year in ready Money. To obviate as far as possible any immediate bad Effects to the Public from the above Causes, the President has now under Consideration, a Proposal to prevent the Exportation of Treasure from occasioning a Scarcity of Money, for some Years at least; yet as this Proposal rather tends to palliate, than effectually remedy, the Evil, it is from your Instructions only that we are to expect a radical Cure.

6. The Opportunity which the Restoration of Peace affords for carrying into Execution your Orders, relative to the Batta allowed to Military Officers, will greatly contribute to the Increase of your Surplus Fund; those Orders, although reasonable and necessary, could not however be conveniently enforced before Public Tranquillity, and Military Discipline and Subordination, were firmly established. It was also requisite, before we entered upon a Reduction of their Pay, to devise the Means of their living cheaper, and of supplying them with Liquors, and other Stores, at a more moderate Price than their Articles had usually been furnished. We must likewise observe, that regimenting the Troops, hath not only conducted to the Reformation we proposed, but also facilitated the Reduction of Expence you enjoin. A Soldier who knows and performs his Duty, will neither expect nor require the Superfluities and Luxuries of Life.

Accordingly we have ordained, that on the First Day of the present Month, the Batta should be struck off from the Troops in general, excepting the Brigade stationed in *Sbeja Dowl's* Dominions; who, on Account of the high Price of Provisions, and the Difficulty of procuring Stores, will be allowed double Batta in the Field, and half double Batta in Cantonments and in Garrison, until they are recalled to the Provinces: For the same Reason half Batta is continued to the Troops quartered at *Paina* and *Mongher*; but the rest of the Army, we mean the Detachments at Subordinates and other Places, that are not engaged in actual Service, are reduced precisely on a Footing with the Company's Forces upon the Coast; even those stationed at *Mongher* and *Paina* receive the same exact Batta as your Troops at *Trichinopoly*. From such Regulations, and also from the Check given to the many shameful Abuses committed in Musters, Returns, Hospital Bills, Boats, and other Articles, we may affirm with Confidence, that the Charges of your whole Establishment, Civil and Military, including your Fortifications, will fall short of the Amount expended during the Course of the late War on your Army alone; and yet it is proposed, if you supply us duly with Recruits, to maintain the complete Establishment projected by Lord *Clive*, and the most formidable Army that ever took the Field in *Bengal*. From what Causes your Military Expences swelled to such immeasurable Bounds requires no Explanation: Certain it is they far exceeded the Supplies so liberally voted by the *British* Parliament for an Army of Auxiliaries employed to oppose the Combined Forces of the most powerful Princes in *Christendom*.

7. To these Schemes of Economy, permit us to add the late Resolution of this Committee, regarding the new Works erected for the Security of your Servants and Property: These Works have for several Years past been a perpetual Drain for Treasures, which might have been more usefully applied; yet should we ever meet with the Misfortune of being driven off the Field, and cooped up within the Walls of this Fort, your Affairs may then be considered as desperate and irrecoverable; it is therefore the unanimous Opinion of this Committee, confirmed by the Sentiments of the Chief Engineer, that we ought to regard the new Works as a temporary Security only; for which

Purpose the Ditch, Ramparts, Bastions, and Ravelins, already finished, are sufficient to withstand the greatest Force which the Powers of this Country are ever likely to assemble. Captain *Martin* further delivers it as his Opinion, that enlarging the Fortifications, conformably to the Plan of the intended Outworks, would add nothing to the Strength of the Place, unless we could at the same Time maintain a Garrison proportionable to their Extent. We resolved therefore not to proceed on the Plan, beyond what is now completed; but to use all possible Means to check the Inroads of the River, which hath advanced within a very few Yards of the Covered Way, and threatens to sweep away one entire Side of the Fort. We will also make all the Dispatch we are able in completing the Barracks, some of which we have converted into very commodious Apartments for the Writers lately arrived; and are convinced it would be much for the Benefit of the Service, if all the younger Servants, and the Public Officers, were collected within so narrow a Compass as might subject them to closer Inspection, and be useful in their present Situation.

8. *Mahomed Reza Khan*, and the Ministers we associated with him, to conduct the Business of the Country Government, proceed with Alacrity and Unanimity, under the Direction of Mr. *Syde*, the Resident; they, as well as the People in general, express great Satisfaction at the Orders now lately issued and enforced; by recalling to the Presidency all Free Merchants, and other *Europeans*, who are not in your covenanted Service; many of whom had, by interfering with public Affairs, by Acts of Oppression and Violence, and by assuming and exerting a judicial Authority, totally perverted the ordinary Course of Justice, and given great Interruption to the Business of the Administration: Yet we must lament that the just and necessary Punishment inflicted upon those who had committed Abuses should unavoidably extend to others, who always acted with Integrity and Honour.

9. The more effectually to remove every Cause of Complaint, and render the Ministers responsible for the Collection of the stated Revenue; we have directed that none besides those who are employed in certain public Stations, shall in future correspond with the Officers of the Government, hold Lands, lend Money to the Zemindars, or take any other Means of improving their Fortune, or acquiring Influence in the Country; that may tend to disturb, distress, or defraud, either the Administration or the People; and this Prohibition we have extended to all our Servants, Civil and Military, and their Dependents. It was the earnest Request of the Ministers, that we should impose such Restrictions; and we thought Compliance but reasonable, as we were well assured that the Revenue had suffered from the Excess to which these Practices were carried.

10. In One Instance, however, we have taken the Liberty of deviating from your Orders for recalling the Free Merchants, &c. The Plan for conducting the joint Island Trade in the Articles of Salt, Beeswax, and Tobacco, is in itself so extensive, the Capital required so very considerable, and the Difficulty of procuring Money at a moderate Interest so great, that it becomes indispensably necessary the Accounts of the Society should be closed; and their Books balanced, with more Dispatch than can be expected, should Black Company Agents be employed: For this Reason, and because we are willing to promote, to the utmost of our Power, a Scheme that appears well calculated for your Interest and the public Benefit, we have permitted the Committee of Trade to appoint *European* Agents for disposing of the Society's Goods, at certain established Marts in different Parts of the Country: And for this Purpose, Company's Servants could not be spared from the Presidency and Subordinate, whose Agents are therefore chosen from the List of Free Merchants.

Merchants, with the utmost Attention to their Character and former Behaviour; besides which, we have strictly confined them to the Business of the Society, by such severe Penalties and Restrictions as we think must effectually prevent their giving Offence or Molestation: Should we find these Limitations insufficient to secure the Peace of the Country, and remove all Cause of Complaint, we are then determined to recall them, and commit the Business to Black Agents.

11. Further to assist this valuable Branch of Commerce, and promote the Credit of the Infant Society; the Governor and Council have, at the Request of the Committee, signed and executed a Deed, for the better securing the Society the free and exclusive Purchase and Sale of the Articles of Salt, &c. from the 1st of September 1765 to the 30th of August 1766, allowing a sufficient Time to dispose of such Stock as may be provided for the Season, in order to prevent the great Loss that must arise to the Proprietors, should any Alteration take Place by your Order, after the Concerns for the Year are begun, and before the same are concluded. We therefore flatter ourselves with your entire Approbation of this Measure, so essential to the due Execution of the Plan formed by your Permission, and with all possible Regard to your Interest.

12. Our Proceedings point out clearly the Increase of your Rents issuing from the *Calcutta* Lands; and the several Minutes entered upon that Subject explain our Sentiments on the Prospect we have of rating the Purgunnahs still higher, without Exaction or Oppression. It evidently appears to us, that considerable Frauds were formerly committed in these Collections; with a View of correcting which, we have determined that the Leases granted to the present Farmers should expire on the 1st Day of September next; by that Time we hope to find Leisure to ascertain their Value more exactly, at least we shall then silence the Clamour of the Inhabitants against what they deem a Monopoly, by universally diffusing and extending the Benefit, arising from the Possession of Lands, among the most substantial and respectable Banyans and Black Merchants living under your Protection.

13. Most earnestly do we wish that such shameful Embezzlement of the public Money were confined to those Lands, situated more immediately under the Eyes of the Governor and Council, since nothing but the greatest Inattention and Misconduct could then prevent the Detection of Abuses; but should a general Depravity of Manners prevail, and your Servants acting in the highest Stations be restrained neither by Motives of Conscience nor by Principles of Honour, the Discovery of Frauds at Places remote from the Presidency will then become more difficult, and merely accidental: This evidently appears from the State of the *Midnapoor* Revenues, which for Three Years past have yielded 2,52,000 Rupees more than ever were placed, as they ought, to the Company's Credit. Our recalling the Factory, and appointing Mr. *Verell* Supervisor, and Mr. *Grabam* Resident at *Midnapoor*, under his Direction, brought this unwarrantable Transaction to Light, which might otherwise have lain in profound Obscurity, until Chance had produced a Resident, whose Sense of Honour and Feelings of Conscience were stronger than the Impulses of private Interest. For your further Information, we beg Leave to refer you to Mr. *Verell's* Letter, and the Statement of those Revenues inserted in the accompanying List of Packet. Yet, fortunate to the Company as this Discovery will certainly be considered, we must confess it occasions great Embarrassment to our Proceedings, unless we would deviate, on the one Hand or the other, from that Duty which we owe to our Constituents. It was firmly our Intention to avoid further Retrospection of the Conduct of an Administration so notoriously corrupt and meanly venal throughout every Department, in Hopes the Examples already  
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made would sufficiently deter others, and work a Reformation: It was the Correction of Abuses, and not the Punishment of Misconduct, that we proposed; although we endeavoured to avoid exposing ourselves either to the Censure of Partiality, or the heavier Charge of Unfaithfulness to our Employers. In this, as in many other Instances, we consider that a Scrutiny into the Particulars of the Embezzlement would be unprofitable to you, when it would at the same Time occasion great Obstruction to our Consultations, and might end in the Necessity of diminishing the Number of your Council, already much reduced by the Death of one, the Suspension of another, and the Resignation of Four Members of the Board. Must further beg Leave to observe, that we cannot help regarding the late Resident, as far less culpable than any of his immediate Predecessors, who may be said to have chalked out the Path, and guided his Steps by the false Light that misled him. Certain it is, that should you disapprove our Lenity, the same Deceit in Law or Equity, which will oblige Mr. *Watts* to refund, will also oblige his Predecessors to make Restitution. From these Considerations therefore, we resolve to leave it in the Option of your honourable Board, to prosecute or relinquish your Claim to such Balances as ought to have been applied to your Credit; contenting ourselves with giving you the necessary Information of Facts, and taking the most effectual Means to prevent such Practices in future.

14. For Reasons of a similar Nature, we decline refusing any further Consideration of the Conduct of the Board and Deputation during the late Negotiations at *Moorsheadabad*. Already our Consultations have been too much interrupted with Cavilling, Debate, and Faction: We are heartily sick of the fruitless Labour of raking in the Jakes of Corruption, and should we enter upon fresh Enquiries, we must again wholly suspend the Course of current Business. You have before you sufficient Proofs whether the Gentlemen distinguished most Zeal for your Service, or Attachment to their own Interest; and should you be disposed, for the Sake of Example, to attempt the recovering of those Sums, obtained so unwarrantably from the Nabob and his Ministers, we apprehend the Evidences transmitted are strong and explicit enough to ground an Action upon in any Court of Judicature.

15. It remains with us to offer a few Remarks upon that Letter, which Mr. *Johnstone* sent in to the Board, just as the *Admiral Stevens* was under Sail; as if he apprehended, least some bold Assertions he advanced, might be refuted before he was out of Reach of the Shame, consequent on Detection; many of these Assertions are so mean, so contrary to Truth, and to Mr. *Johnstone's* own Knowledge, that we read them with equal Surprise and Contempt; sensible that he must be hard pressed indeed, to support a sinking Reputation, who has Recourse to Falshood to justify Misconduct.

16. This Gentleman thinks it necessary, after Three Months Preparation, to apologize for a lame and unseasonable Defence, by affirming, That he was denied all Access to the Papers, relative to himself, until a few Days before his Departure. Mr. *Johnstone* forgot that he acknowledges the Receipt of those very Papers in a Note he wrote to our Secretary, in the Month of June, before he came to any Determination; which Note is now in the Secretary's Possession; he also forgot, that the Letters of Messrs. *Senior* and *Middleton*, inserted in our Proceedings of the 21st of June, prove, that all the Evidences and Proceedings upon that Occasion were regularly transmitted to those Gentlemen who were not present at the Board—He ought, therefore, to avail himself of the first Plea, and refuse rather to acknowledge the Authority of the Committee, than thus to skulk behind a pitiful Untruth.

From the deep Fund of critical Learning which Mr. *Johnstone* displays in the Country Language, we might reasonably

reasonably expect a more perfect Knowledge of the Power and Idiom of his Mother Tongue; for after torturing the Phrase Cooch Booligint, to make our Proceedings appear unfair and partial, he is at length forced to construe it into a Signification, that implies a stronger Menace than can possibly be conveyed in the Words of our Translation; the least Acquaintance with the *English* Language will enable any Man to determine, whether, in the Circumstances there represented, Mr. *Johnstone's* Expression, "I will be silent," doth not imply a more emphatic Menace, than the Words which we ascribe to him; "Your Business will meet with no Countenance;" inasmuch as the One declares all that is meant; whereas the Other intimates a harsher Meaning than he would chuse to express.

Mr. *Johnstone* insinuates, by Way of Reflection on the Management of the Committee, That we were under the Necessity of applying to the *Setts* for the Loan of a Lakh and a Half of Rupees—The Fact is true, but it rests with Mr. *Johnstone*, and his Associates at the Board, to explain how the Company's Treasury came to be at so low an Ebb as to want to poor a Supply.—It also rests with them to explain, how the Nabob (for our first Application was to the Nabob) came to be so impoverished, by Presents made to the Deputation, that he could not furnish even this small Relief to the Necessities of the Company: And it rests particularly with Mr. *Johnstone*, to assign the Reason, why a Balance of 6 Lacks was due from *Burdwan* to your exhausted Treasury, while he was filling his own Pockets at the Durbar, which Balance was afterwards collected by Mr. *Verelst*.

What he remarks on our Opinion of Mr. *Leycester*, delivered in our Proceedings of the 21st of June, is also very true; that Gentleman had, jointly with Mr. *Johnstone*, received Bills from *M. R. Cawon*; but as he declared upon Oath, That he had no Intention of benefiting by them, it was surely incumbent on the Committee to acquit him in a public Opinion.—We should have acquitted Mr. *Johnstone* likewise, if he had made the same solemn Declaration; but our private Sentiments of that Oath we should have reserved, as in Mr. *Leycester's* Case, to our Letter to the Court of Directors; for an Oath may silence an Accusation of Crimes, but it doth not necessarily produce Conviction of Innocence.

Mr. *Johnstone* has tacked to this extraordinary Defence, certain Letters, written to him by *Mahomed Reza Cawon*, and his own Agent *Mootram*, as Vouchers for his good Behaviour, during the Negotiation. With respect to these Letters, we must observe, that they were obtained at a Period when it may reasonably be supposed, that such Testimonies durst not be refused, on Account of the extraordinary Authority which Mr. *Johnstone* had just before assumed at the Durbar.

It may also be observed from *M. R. Cawon's* Letter, That great Apprehensions were conceived, lest the Nabob should come to *Calcutta*, to lay his Complaints before the Committee; and Mr. *Johnstone* knows that Interest was made with the then Resident, to prevail on him to exert his utmost Influence in preventing a Visit, which it was thought would not bring much Honour to the Deputation. We leave it therefore to your honourable Board to determine, whether, at the best, those Testimonies will justify Mr. *Johnstone* from the Charge of Extortion, and weigh down against the most positive Evidence that can be given upon any Matter of Fact.—Be this as it will, we think it necessary to correct Mr. *Johnstone's* Mistake, when he affirms, that *M. R. Cawon's* first Deposition takes no Notice of any Demand made in the Name of the Deputation—A Reference to that Deposition will satisfy you, that Mr. *Johnstone* either reads without Attention, or that he quotes without Candour. It would be endless to pursue Mr. *Johnstone* through the tedious Maze of Error and Misrepresentation, so evident in every Page of his Letter. Permit us therefore, to refer you, for a more particular

Reply, to the Proceedings themselves, and to Lord *Clive's* Minute, and to those of the Members of the Select Committee, entered in the Appendix already transmitted by the *Admiral Stevens*. As to Mr. *Johnstone's* Management in the *Burdwan* Province, we could wish he had suffered us to cover with the Veil of Silence Transactions that will not bear Examination. He hath now, by his ill-judged Strictures on Mr. *Verelst's* Memorial, obliged that Gentleman to disclose, what, out of Tenderness to Mr. *Johnstone*, he was unwilling to reveal.

17. You will observe from the Consultations, That Mr. *Leycester* stands suspended, and that Mr. *Gray* resigned the Service, while his Conduct, during his Residence at *Haulda*, was under Consideration of the Board; you will also perceive the Obstruction given to all public Business, by Cavilling, Debate, and unreasonable Minutes, while the Two Gentlemen remained at the Board. Those Minutes are of themselves sufficient Testimony of the Spirit which actuated for extraordinary a Behaviour; they are indecent, violent, and factious, beyond any Thing ever before tolerated in this Government, in the most licentious Times. Messrs. *Leycester* and *Gray* no sooner perceived the Lash of Correction removed, than they, unmindful of the Lenity of the Committee, when we might with Propriety, and indeed ought, to have suspended them the Service, set up a determined Opposition, and dared to ridicule and insult the Government upon all Occasions; yet we bore this Usage with Patience, out of Regard to your Situation, and replied to their Minutes with Temper, until Mr. *Leycester* proceeded to such Lengths of Licentiousness, as tended to involve the Settlement in Anarchy, and Civil Disturbances. He published an Expression, hastily dropped by General *Carnac* at the Board, with such additional and aggravating Circumstances, as were best calculated to raise a Ferment in the Minds of the People, and excite the Inhabitants to open Sedition. The Alarm, that we were about to introduce a Military Government, became so general, we thought it incumbent on us, to trace the Author of such dangerous Calumny,—and upon Conviction that Mr. *Leycester* had forged and published it, with a Design of weakening the Hands of Administration, we judged it necessary to suspend him, as unworthy his Station in your Service.

18. We need not take up your Time, in justifying a Measure that became indispensably necessary, unless we meant to relinquish all Attempts to effect that general Reformation, so essential to the Stability and Permanency of your Possessions. Mr. *Leycester* had strenuously opposed every Measure which tended to the Correction of Abuses; and even while he was acting in the Capacity of a Magistrate and Judge, most shamefully endeavoured to suppress, pervert, and stifle, Evidences relative to Mr. *Gray's* Conduct. His own Minute upon the Occasion, that produced his Suspension, so strongly points out the violent Designs he entertained, that we could fit no longer at the same Board, with any Regard to our own Characters, or Prospect of Advantage to your Service. From the loud Cry raised by Mr. *Gray* and him against Military Force, and arbitrary Power, one would naturally conceive the President had deprived Half the *British* Subjects in the Settlement of their Birth Right. The Fact, however, was nothing more, than that Lord *Clive* had ordered a Guard of *Seapoys* over *Remnaut*, a Man of infamous Character, said to be employed by Mr. *Gray* in the most iniquitous Acts of Extortion, and a Native of *Maulda*, who himself refused to claim the Protection of our Laws, because he should thereby become subject to the Punishment to which those Laws condemn his Offences; whereas numberless Instances occur, in former Governments in *Bengal*, of Natives, Inhabitants of *Calcutta*, being confined by Military Guards, upon Accusations of infinitely less Consequence to the public Weal.—In short, these Two Gentlemen were so discontented, and industrious in pro-



pagating the Seeds of their Humour, that we are firmly convinced the Suspension of the one was necessary, and the Resignation of the other is conducive to the Benefit of your Service; yet these are the Gentlemen who, we are told, flatter themselves with the Hopes of justifying their Conduct to your Satisfaction, and of returning again to the Management of your Concerns in Bengal; should this Event ever happen, we have only to wish, and we fervently do wish, although contrary to all human Probability, that your Affairs may prosper.

19. The Board being now reduced far beneath the Establishment we proposed, and to a Number insufficient to conduct the necessary Business of the Government, filling the vacant Seats became an Object of immediate Consideration. By the *Admiral Stevens* we freely delivered our Sentiments of the Unfitness for that Station of some of those Gentlemen who stand next in Succession. We also recommended with the greatest Earnestness, that in composing your Council, you would admit of no Claim but that of Merit and approved Services. We must now again beg Leave to repeat, that from a List of Fourteen junior Merchants, we are not able to select a Number sufficient to make up the Deficiency of Members at the Board, unless we abandon all Hopes of curbing Licentiousness, reforming Abuses, and subduing that universal Passion that prevailed among our Servants, of accumulating Riches in a Manner inconsistent with the Good of the Country and with your Interest: The factious Spirit which lately blazed out so violently in Council, hath reached the lower Classes, so that we can entertain no reasonable Hope from their cordial Services, until they have felt the Weight of Correction, and experienced the Influence of Example. Still, however, we should be sorry to deprive them of all Prospect of rising, by promoting their Juniors on this Establishment; since Time, and the certain Assurance that Merit, not Standing, will entitle them to your Favour, may produce the desired Effect upon their Conduct.

20. For these Reasons we applied to the Presidency at *Fort Saint George*, requesting that Messieurs *Russell*, *Aldersey*, *Kelsal*, and *Floyer*, might be permitted to assist us in the present Exigency, until your Pleasures should be known; being fully persuaded, that this Preference of the Servants of another Presidency will operate more effectually, than if we had Recourse to the more irksome and mortifying Indignity of superseding them from this Establishment. We are sorry to find that our Endeavours to serve the Company, in a Manner the least injurious to your Servants here, should be misconstrued. As soon as this Measure became known, by Reports from *Madras*, and previous to our laying any Proceedings before the Board, the young Gentlemen of the Settlement had set themselves up for Judges of the Propriety of our Conduct, and the Degree of their own Merit; each would seem to think himself qualified to transact your mighty Affairs in Council, at an Age when the Laws of his Country adjudge him unfit to manage his own Concerns to the Extent of Forty Shillings. They have not only set their Hands to the Memorial of Complaint, but entered into Associations unbecoming at their Years, and destructive of that Subordination without which no Government can stand; all Visits to the President are forbidden; all Invitations from him and the Members of the Committee are to be slighted; the Gentlemen called down by our Authority from *Madras*, are to be treated with Neglect and Contempt; every Man who deviates from this Confederacy is to be stigmatized and avoided: In a Word, the Members are totally to separate themselves from the Head; Decorum and Union are to be set at Defiance; and it becomes a fair Struggle whether we or the young Gentlemen shall in future guide the Helm of Government. Look at their Names, examine their Standing, enquire into their Services, and reflect upon the Age of Four Fifths of the Subscribers to this Bill of Grievances,

who now support the Association, and you will be equally surprized with us at the presumptuous Intemperance of Youth, and convinced that a Step of Three or Four Years in the Course of Promotion is indispensably necessary, if you would have your Council composed of Men of Experience and Discretion.

21. From this Sketch of the Behaviour of your Junior Servants, you will perceive the dangerous Pitch to which the independent and licentious Spirit of this Settlement hath risen; you will then determine on the Necessity and Propriety of the Step we have taken. In the mean Time we are resolved to support it, or we must submit to the Anarchy and Confusion consequent on subjecting the Decrees of your Select Committee to the Revival and Repeal of young Gentlemen just broke loose from the Hands of their Schoolmaster; earnestly do we wish that every Member of this Board had cordially joined in the same Sentiments, since Diffents serve only to break the Force of Resolutions, to weaken Authority, and give Vigour and Courage to Faction and Disobedience: As to the Point of Indignity, of which your Petitioners complain, nothing can be more evident, than that the Committee regarded the present Superfluousness as less injurious than a Selection would be from this Establishment, since we even declined promoting, upon this Occasion, the very Persons whom we particularly recommended to the most distinguishing Marks of your Favour; in this Light it is considered in every other Service, and we doubt not but it would have been so considered in this Service, had such Promotion been the Choice of the Committee.

22. Our Proceedings explain the Motives of our Conduct, and also the Measures we enforced to reduce the Settlement to Order and Obedience. Mr. *Majendie*, the Secretary to the Council, is dismissed from his Office, and suspended the Service, for having eminently distinguished himself in forming a Combination so unwarrantable in itself, so dangerous in the present Conjunction, and so peculiarly unbecoming to his Age, to his Station, and his Employment; should this Example suffice, we shall avoid proceeding to the Extremity of punishing with the Loss of Bread, young Men who have been artfully spirited up to Faction, to gratify the Repentment and promote the selfish Views of Men, in whom you have reposed unmerited, and much abused, Confidence.

You will be astonished to observe at the Head of this List, Two Members of your Council, who subscribe their Names in Testimony of their Sense of the Injustice done to the younger Servants; possibly this Testimony might have Weight with your honourable Board, had those Gentlemen first cleared up their Conduct from certain Imputations, which intimate how little their Interest disposes them to co-operate in a Reformation for the Public Benefit; at all Events, whether the Proceeding of the Committee be in itself right or wrong, it is most certainly their Duty to repress every factious Combination, to temper the Heat and Vehemence of Youth, to maintain the Authority of the Board, and to avoid giving Countenance to a seditious and rebellious Humour, that might have produced the Subversion of Government, and the most fatal Consequences to the Company's Affairs, before your Decision could arrive.

23. This Incident occurring Four Days only before the Dispatch of the Ship, you will not expect that our Letter from the Public Department should enter so minutely into the Transactions of the Board, as we proposed; the Business is now suddenly taken up by Mr. *Campbell*, our Secretary, who, we are assured, will exert his utmost Ability; but he requests, you will please to make an Allowance for the Shortness of Time, and his total Unacquaintance with all that has been transacted in that Department.

24. We have the Satisfaction to acquaint you, That

*Sujah*

*Sujab Dewlah* appears well disposed to cultivate our Friendship, and adhere strictly to the Conditions of the late Treaty; Colonel *Smith's* Brigade is now stationed at *Ilahabad* and *Benaras*, to secure the King and Vizier against the Invasions of the *Morattes*, until they have fully re-established themselves, and Payment of the stipulated Indemnification to the Company is completed: His Majesty's visionary Projects, of seating himself with our Assistance on the Throne of his Ancestors, and proceeding to *Delhi*, his Capital, seem to have vanished before the Committee's Remonstrances; we hope he is at length convinced, that without us the Scheme is impracticable, and we are certain it never can be our Interest to extend the Influence of your Arms to so great a Distance from your present Possessions, and the Seat of your Government.

25. Opening a Communication between the Northern Circar and Bengal, must prove mutually advantageous to your Presidency at *Fort Saint George*, and to us; we have therefore determined to embrace the favourable Opportunity which the present feeble Con-

dition of the *Morattes* affords, to carry this Measure into Execution, and have for that Purpose set on Foot a Negotiation with their Chief; whereby we propose he shall cede to us the Northern Parts of *Orissa*, now in his Possession, upon our consenting to pay a certain stipulated annual Revenue; whatever his Determination may be, it is our Resolution not to attempt gaining this Advantage by Violence or Force of Arms: Peace is at length happily restored to these Provinces, and it will be the Study of this Committee to preserve and prolong those Advantages which you already begin to experience.

We remain, with the warmest Zeal for your Service, and the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

*Fort William,*  
the 31st January 1766.

*Clive,*  
*W. B. Summer,*  
*John Carnac,*  
*H. Verelst,*  
*Pres. Sykes.*

## N° 47.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 15th February 1765.

39. IN our Letters of the 8th February and 1st June last, we gave you our Sentiments and Directions very fully in respect to the Inland Trade of Bengal; we now enforce the same in the strongest Manner, and positively insist that you take no Steps whatever towards renewing this Trade, without our express Leave; for which Purpose you must not fail to give us the fullest Information upon the Subject, agreeable to our above-mentioned Directions.

40. The enforcing our said Orders is the more indispensably necessary, from our observing the Com-

plaints of the present Nabob, taken Notice of and referred to in your separate Letter of the 20th February 1764, relating to the many Difficulties, Hardships, and Oppressions, he meets with, resulting from the before mentioned unwarrantable and licentious Trade. — We have such an intire Confidence in Lord *Clive's* great Abilities and good Intentions, that we make no Doubt these great Abuses will be the particular Objects of his Care and Attention, and that he will be able to carry these our Orders effectually into Execution.

## N° 48.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 26th April 1765.

20. WE are extremely anxious for the Arrival of Lord *Clive*, and the Gentlemen who accompanied him; as they have been so lately in England, they are the best Judges of the Opinion the Company and the Nation entertain of the Conduct of the *English* in Bengal, for these last Four Years, which, we are sorry to say, is in general, that they have been guilty of violating Treaties, of great Oppression, and a Combination to enrich themselves.

21. We do not here mean to enter into a Discussion respecting the political Conduct of our late Governor and Council; but must say, that an unbounded Thirst after Riches seems to have possessed the whole Body of our Servants to that Degree, that they have lost all Sight of Justice to the Country Government, and of their Duty to the Company.

22. In reading the Opinions of the several Members of the late Council, respecting this illegal Trade, by which we mean the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, we are astonished to find those among them, who pretended to sound their Right on the *Phirmaunds*.

23. Treaties of Commerce are understood to be for

the mutual Benefit of the contracting Parties: Is it then possible to suppose that the Court of *Delhi*, by confirming the Privilege of trading free of Customs, could mean an Inland Trade in the Commodities of their own Country, at that Period unpractised and unthought of by the *English*, to the Detriment of their Revenues, and the Ruin of their own Merchants? we do not find such a Contraction was ever heard of, until our own Servants first invented it, and afterwards supported it by Violence; — neither could it be claimed by the subsequent Treaties with *Mier Jaffer* or *Cassim Ally*, which were never understood to give one additional Privilege of Trade beyond what the *Phirmaunds* expressed; in short, the specious Arguments used by those who pretended to set up a Right to it, convince us they did not want Judgment, but Virtue, to withstand the Temptation of suddenly amassing a great Fortune, although acquired by Means incompatible with the Peace of the Country and their Duty to the Company.

24. Equally blameable were they, who acknowledging they had no Right to it, and sensible of the ill Consequences resulting from assuming it, have nevertheless carried on this Trade, and used the Authority of the

Company

Company to obtain by a Treaty exacted by Violence, a Sanction for a Trade to enrich themselves, without the least Regard or Advantage to the Company, whose Forces they employed to protect them in it.

25. Had this short Question been put, which their Duty ought first to have suggested, Is it for the Interest of our Employers? they would not have hesitated One Moment about it; but this Criterion seems never once to have occurred.

26. All Barriers being thus broken down between the *English* and the Country Government, and every

Thing out of its proper Channel, we are at a Loss how to prescribe Means to restore Order from this Confusion; and being deprived of that Confidence which we hoped we might have placed in those Servants, who appear to have been the Actors in these strange Scenes, we can only say that we rely on the Zeal and Abilities of Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, to remedy these Evils: We hope they will restore our Reputation among the Country Powers, and convince them of our Abhorrence of Oppression and Rapaciousness.

N° 49.

Company's Letter to Lord Clive.

My Lord,

WE have, with the greatest Pleasure, received the News of your Lordship's Arrival in good Health at the *Cape of Good Hope*; and although your Passage to that Place was not so expeditious as we could have wished, we hope the Winds proved more favourable in the latter Part of your Voyage, and that this Letter will find your Lordship in Health and Safety at *Fort William*.

Our Advices from *Bengal*, in a separate Letter of the 27th September last, make us anxious for the Issue of the War against *Shuja Dowlah* and *Cosim Ally Cawn*; we hope the Expectation of your Lordship's Arrival will have had a happy Influence on our Affairs, by hastening the Conclusion of that expensive War, and leaving you at full Leisure to attend to the Establishment of a firm and lasting Peace, to the Regulation of the Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, and other Articles, that it may be adjusted on such a Plan, to the Satisfaction, and with the Concurrence, of the Nabob, as may redound to the Honour of the Company, and effectually prevent the Confusion and Oppression that have sprung from the Abuses practised in it of late Years, to the Reduction of our enormous Military Expences, to the Establishment of good Order among our Civil Servants, Discipline in our Army, and Harmony in the Settlement: These, my Lord, are our sanguine Expectations, founded on the Experience of your great Abilities, and Zeal for the Company's Service, in which we have the fullest Confidence; and we must beg Leave to add our Opinion, that Success in these great Points will redound as much to your Lordship's Reputation, as any of the great Actions by which you have already been distinguished.

Your Lordship may be assured of our firmest Support, in every thing that can be suggested or proposed for the Prosperity of the Company, and your own Honour.

We are,

My Lord,  
Your Lordship's  
Loving Friends,

Henry Crabb Boulton,  
George Dudley,  
Johas du Pre,  
John Stephenson,  
Thomas Sanders,  
Edward Wheeler,  
George Cuming,  
Henry Hadley,  
John Roberts,  
Charles Chambers,  
J. Pardo,  
J. Creswick,  
John Harrison,  
Charles Cullis,  
Robert Jones,  
J. Purling,  
Frederick Pigou,  
Henry Savage,  
E. H. Crutenden,  
Thomas Rous,  
Luke Scrafton,  
F. W. Barrington.

London, 26th April 1765.

N° 50.

Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Council at *Fort William*, dated 24th December 1765.

10. YOUR Deliberations on the Inland Trade have laid open to us a Scene of most cruel Oppression, which is indeed exhibited at one View of the 13th Article of the Nabob's Complaints, mentioned thus, in your Consultation of the 17th October 1764, "The Poor of this Country, who used always to deal in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, are now deprived of their daily Bread, by the Trade of the *Europeans*, whereby no Kind of Advantage accrues to the Company, and the Government's Revenues are greatly injured." Vol. III.

We shall for the present observe to you, that every one of our Servants, concerned in this Trade, has been guilty of a Breach of his Covenants, and a Disobedience to our Orders. In your Consultations of the 3d of May, we find, among the various extortionate Practices, the most extraordinary one of Burjaut, or forcing the Natives to buy Goods beyond the Market Price, which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practised.

11. In your Resolution to prevent this Practice, you determine

determine to forbid it, "but with such Care and Diligence as not to affect the Company's Investment, as you do not mean to invalidate the Right derived to the Company from their Phirmaund, which they have always held over their Weavers." As the Company are known to purchase their Investment by ready Money only, we require a full Explanation how this can affect them, or how it ever could have been practised in the Purchase of their Investment, which the latter Part of Mr. *Johnstone's* Minute, entered on Consultation the 21st July 1764, insinuates; for it would almost justify a Suspicion that the Goods of our Servants have been put off to the Weavers, in Part Payment of the Company's Investment; therefore we direct you to make a rigid Scrutiny into this Affair, that we may know if any of our Servants, or those employed under them, have been guilty of such a Breach of Trust, that their Names and all the Circumstances may be known to us.

12. We also order you to give us the particular Instances, which have confirmed you in your Opinion, that the Burjaut has been practised, that we may know whose Agents they were, and whether the Agents who practised it were countenanced and protected in it by their Masters.

13. Mr. *Johnstone's* Minute, on Consultation the 21st July 1764, cannot escape our Notice; wherein he says, "the Support of these, and our other Privileges, in their full Extent, against the Usurpations of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy War, and after so many valuable Lives lost in the Defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the Loss of them, without greater and better Cause than has yet appeared, and till after we have found by Experience, that all other Remedies are in vain."

14. As the Privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted Inland Trade, in which our own Servants have been so generally concerned, greatly to the Prejudice of the Company, by involving their Affairs in Distresses and Difficulties, and manifestly injurious to the Country Government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully sensible; we say we cannot avoid taking Notice of the said Opinion, as by it Mr. *John-*

*stone* seems to persevere in all Events to prefer the private Interest of Individuals to the general Good, so far as respects the said Inland Trade.—If Mr. *Johnstone* continues in these Sentiments, as from the general Tenor of his Conduct we have too much Reason to apprehend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous Servant; therefore if he, or any other Persons, shall persist in carrying on a Trade, which, as before observed, has been attended with so many bad Consequences, we would have him or them dismissed the Company's Service.

15. We shall say nothing further at present on the Inland Trade, till that important Subject shall have been taken up by Lord *Clive*, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, only to observe, that the Regulation proposed in Consultation 17th October 1764, of confining the Trade of our Servants, in the Article of Salt, to the capital Cities of *Patna*, *Dacca*, and *Moorshedabad*, on paying the Nabob 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. is a manifest Disobedience of our Orders of the 8th February, then under your Deliberation, which positively forbid all Trade in Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco; nor does it by any Means obviate the Objections arising from the Distress of the Poor, and the Injury to his Revenues; for if you pay only 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. and the Country People 20, or perhaps 40 per Cent. it is as much a Monopoly as ever.

16. For other licenced Trade, we think it necessary to establish, That all Trade to be carried on within the Provinces, where Factories are established, shall be carried on by our Servants at such Factories, and their Agents only, who shall transact the Business of our other Servants, on receiving the established Commission; and on any Refusal to accept such Commission, or any Tendency to monopolize, the Servants of *Calcutta*, or other Parts, are at Liberty to fend their own Black Gomastahs; who are nevertheless to be accountable for their Conduct to the Company's Servants, within whose Jurisdiction they reside.—All Districts not comprehended within the Jurisdiction of each Subordinate, shall be considered as within the Jurisdiction of the Board of *Calcutta*.—That no Duties shall be given but for Articles of Import and Export, as was formerly practised; and you are to send us a List of whatever falls under this Denomination.

## Nº 51.

At a Select Consultation, the 15th August 1766;

### P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord *Clive*, President,  
William B. *Sumner*, Esquire,  
B. G. *Carnac*,  
Harry *Versell*, Esquire.

THE President acquaints the Committee, That he has certain Intelligence of the exorbitant Prices, at which the Merchants who had purchased from the Society were now selling Salt in the Bazar, contrary to the Terms of their Contract, and regardless of the following Regulation established by the Committee of Trade:

Committee, June the 12th 1766.

That, in order to prevent the Purchasers, by having engrossed the whole Salt to be disposed of in the dis-

ferent Districts, raising the Price in the Bazars so high as to be an Oppression to the Inhabitants, we reserve to ourselves to regulate, in Case of Complaint, the Price Salt shall be sold at in the Bazars by Retail, which shall be settled in such a Manner, that the Purchasers of the Committee may be enabled to make 13 per Cent. Profit, if sold on the Spot, and 17  $\frac{1}{2}$  half, if transported from the Place they purchase it at, allowing for Risk and Charges.

Agreed, The Purchasers be called before us, to assign Reasons for their deviating from the express Terms of their Agreement, and from the positive Orders of the Committee of Trade.

*Cessnaut* being called in and interrogated, acknowledges that he is appointed an Agent by his Partners, for disposing of the Salt purchased by him and divers others, Black Merchants, from the Society; and that he had disposed of the same at *Calcutta* and *Calcutta*, in the Manner specified in the following Statements.

Coolburia.			
Sagbieram Gofe	—	500 a 210	1,050
Shakabolla	—	300 a 220	660
Shakabollat	—	200 a 220	440
Nasar Mahomed	—	200 a 220	440
Qazderam Gbefe	—	1,000 a 220	2,200
Ramdul Paul	—	450 a 225	1,012. 8
Bulram Gound	—	500 a 227	1,135
Mania Chund Show	—	10,000 a 220	22,000
Banchiram Mottee	—	100 a 227	227
Ramdul Paul	—	150 a 230	345
Lajram, &c.	—	5,000 a 225	11,250
Luckcaunt Gbefe	—	5,000 a 225	11,250
Bulram Mozendar	—	6,000 a 225	13,500
		29,400	65,509. 8
Calcutta.			
Kiffenbund Sircar	—	5,000 a 264	13,200
Juteram Cano	—	5,000 a 264	13,200
Binnu Seidar	—	2,000 a 264	5,280
Candeb Show	—	1,000 a 264	2,640
Roy Chund Beenga	—	700 a 275	1,925
Naram Mejab	—	5,000 a 276	13,800
Sapbeiram Paul	—	45,000 a 266	1,19,700
Gepaul Soura	—	25,000 a 265	66,250
Kiffenmabone Gbefe	—	15,000 a 265	39,750
Kiffenbund Sercar	—	10,000 a 273	27,300
		1,13,700	3,03,045
1,13,700 Maunds, a 230		—	261,510
R. per Maund, is			41,535

It now appearing to the Committee, from the Confession of *Coffinault*, and the Particulars of the above Statements, that the Merchants, who had contracted with the Society, have sold to the Amount of 1,13,700 Maunds of Salt, for the Sum of 3,03,045 Rupees, whereas their Agreement stipulates they should sell for 2,61,510 Rupees; whence arises a Surplus Profit to the Merchants of 41,535 Rupees, levied upon the Necessities of the Poor and Industrious:

Agreed, That to prevent in future all such oppressive and iniquitous Practices, as may reflect Dishonour upon this Government, we require of the above Merchants to refund the Surplus Profit of 41,535 Rupees, the same to be appropriated to such good and charitable Purposes as the Governor and Council shall direct; or, in case of Refusal, withdraw from them the Company's Protection: And that *Coffinault* and his Partners be called upon to pay into the Treasury their several Shares of Surplus Profit by the First Day of September next.

Ordered, That the Secretary shall give public Notice of this our Resolution. And

Also, That the Remainder now on Hand will be sold at the Rate stipulated with the Committee of Trade; otherwise the Merchants shall forfeit the Company's Protection.

Clive,  
John Carnar,  
H. Verelst.

N° 52.

At a Select Consultation, 3d September 1766;

P R E S E N T,

The Right honourable Lord Clive, President,  
Brigadier General Carnar,  
Harry Verelst, Esquire.

THE Right honourable the President lays before the Committee, the following Minute:

Gentlemen,

Some Time before my Departure from England, the Court of Directors debated upon the Propriety of suffering their Servants in Bengal to trade in the Articles of Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco; and it could not be expected, they would continue to them the Enjoyment of those profitable Branches, unless Means were devised, by which the Natives would no longer be oppressed, and by which the Nabob and the Company would largely partake of the Advantages. Upon a firm Persuasion, that such Means would be devised, they were pleased to defer their final Determination of this Matter, till the Sentiments of the Select Committee should be transmitted to them. By all their Letters of last Year, and by several of this, they still seem inclined to wait for our Representation; but by their Letter of the 19th February last, per Lord Camden, they positively forbid their Servants to have any Concern whatsoever in this Trade. At that Time, indeed, they could not have had the least Idea of the favourable Change in the Affairs of these Provinces, whereby the Interest of the Nabob, with regard to Salt, is no longer immediately concerned.

When we first took this important Matter into Consideration, I joined in Opinion with the rest of the Committee, that if the Trade could be put upon such a Footing, that the Nabob should receive more than had been received by any of his Predecessors, the Company be amply considered, and the Natives become Purchasers upon Terms full as reasonable as in former Times, the Servants might be indulged in the Privilege, under such certain Rules and Restrictions as would make the Trade carry with it, as little as possible, the odious Form of a Monopoly. These Points having been settled, I consented to the Plan laid down last Year. My Absence from the Presidency, the Multiplicity of Affairs then in Agitation, wherein the Peace and Tranquillity of the Provinces, the Interest of the Company, and the Honour of the Nation were more immediately concerned, prevented my paying that Attention I could have wished to that important Object. Although by the Acquisition of the Dewannee, the Whole of the Duties belong to the Company, and by the Diligence and Zeal of the Members of the Committee of Trade, many useful Reforms had taken Place, yet, from my Observation when I was last up the Country, and from the heavy Complaints against Europeans of the Monopoly of Trade in general, I find that the industrious Native is still deprived of that Share to which he has an undoubted and a more natural Right; nor is it yet upon that equitable Footing, which Justice and Humanity would, I am sure, incline this Committee to establish.

A few Weeks more must bring us the final Resolution of the Court of Directors, in Answer to our Dispatches by the *Admiral Stevens*; and if, notwithstanding the present Situation of their Affairs, they should think

think proper to repeat their Orders *per Lord Camden*, it will be our Duty to obey them, and am persuaded they will be obeyed by this Committee. But if, on the contrary, upon Receipt of our Representations, they should change their Sentiments, and approve of the Regulations we have already made, no Time should be lost on our Part, in establishing the Mode for carrying on the Trade in future. The Confidence which the Court of Directors have been pleased particularly to express in my Endeavours, to settle, upon an equitable Plan, that Trade which has been the Source of so many Evils, cannot but promote my Zeal for the Cause, and make me anxiously wish to see every Regulation, that you may join with me in thinking necessary, to take Place.

The Company's Duties, I beg Leave to propose, shall be increased; the Servants still receive a reasonable Share of Emolument; and the Terms, upon which the Natives are finally to be concerned, advantageously fixed.

I propose,

1st, That all Salt provided by the Society of Trade shall be sold at *Calcutta*, and at other Places where it is made, and no where else.

2d, That the Price of Salt shall not exceed Two Rupees per Maund, or 200 Rupees per 100 Maunds.

3dly, That the Salt shall be sold to the Natives only, who are to transport it to every Part of *Bengal, Babar, and Orissa*, and to have the whole Profits arising from the Sale thereof; and that no Company's Servant, free Merchant, or *European*, shall be concerned in that Article, directly or indirectly, after the Sale of it, at the above Places.

4thly, That the *Calcutta* Black Merchants shall be limited to a certain Proportion of Purchase; but that no *Banyans*, or Servant whatever, belonging to any *European*, shall be included, or have any Concern therein.

5thly, That every Endeavour be made use of to encourage the substantial Merchants of the Country, either to come down in Person to the Place where the Salt is provided, or to send their Agents, in order to purchase and transport the Salt to the different Places of Sale.

6thly, That a certain Price be fixed for the Sale of every Maund of Salt, at every Town, Market, or Village, where it is sold, according to the Distance and former Custom.

7thly, That if Salt be sold at any of the Buzars, or Markets, for one Coury above the stipulated Price, the Vender shall not only forfeit all the Salt there found in his Possession, but be liable to a Forfeit of 1,000 Rupees for every Hundred Maunds of Salt so sold; and the Salt and Money so forfeited shall go One Half to the Informer, and One Half to the Government.

8thly, That the Ministers at *Muxadavad* and *Patna* have Copies sent them of these new Regulations; and that they be desired to apply to the Nabob, to make the same known throughout the Three Provinces; and that every *Phouzdar, &c.* see they be put in Execution, upon Pain of being dismissed from his Employment.

9thly, This Business being entirely commercial, I propose, that in the Instrument of Agreement for the next Year, it shall be provided, that the Society of Trade be answerable to the Board for their Conduct; that the Board may either make new Regulations, or amend those made by the Society of Trade, as they see fit; and that, in Case of Necessity, the Select Committee shall have Power to controul the Conduct of the Whole.

10thly, That a Duty of 50 per Cent. be paid to the Company, upon all the Salt provided in their own Lands, and 50 per Cent. to the Government, upon all the Salt provided upon the Lands of the Government; and 15 per Cent. upon Beetle; which Duties will, in Fact, be brought to the Company's Credit, which, according to the present State of the Salt Trade, will produce the Company from 12 to 13 Laaks of Rupees per Annum.

The Prohibition of a free Inland Trade, however dif-

agreeable to Individuals, must now take Place, and be confined to Imports and Exports, and to their immediate Returns; which Returns shall be made only to the Presidency, or to one or other of the established Factories. The Company are Sovereigns in *India*; and they have declared, that the Trade carried on for these Four Years past is an Usurpation, not only of their Prerogative, but of the Privileges of the Natives, and repugnant to the express and repeated Orders of the Court of Directors. The Indulgence, however, in the Trade of Salt, upon the Footing I hope it will now be established, should, in my Opinion, obviate all Complaints; since it seems to be the most equitable Modus between the Company and their Servants, and, at the same Time, a Distribution of natural Right to the People of the Country. Considering that the late great Advantages of unlimited Trade are cut off, I cannot imagine that the Court of Directors will deny their Servants this Share of Benefit, as a Recompence for their Attention and Assistance in the Management of the important Concerns of these Provinces. On the other Hand, I would have the Servants look upon these Emoluments as a Gift from the Hands of their Employers, offered to them annually in Reward of their Fidelity, and which will certainly be with-held from them, if ever their Authority should be refitted, and Discontent and Rapacity take Place of Gratitude and Moderation.

Clive.

His Lordship's Minute having been read, and maturely considered, the Regulations therein specified are unanimously approved.

Agreed therefore, that the President's Regulations for the Inland Trade be laid before the Council with all convenient Speed, for their Approbation, in order that the necessary Instructions for prosecuting the joint Concern, for the ensuing Season, may be immediately issued to the Committee of Trade.

Resolved, That the above Concern shall consist of 60 Shares; and that the Proprietors shall stand inrolled, with the several Proportions allotted to their Names, in the Manner ascertained in the following Statement.

Statement of the Joint Salt Concern,  
For the Year 1766.

<i>W. B. Sumner</i>	—	—	3
<i>John Carnac</i>	—	—	3
<i>Charles Stafford Playdell</i>	—	—	2
<i>Harry Verelst</i>	—	—	2
<i>John Cartier</i>	—	—	2
<i>Francis Sykes</i>	—	—	2
<i>Randolph Marriott</i>	—	—	2
<i>Hugh Watts</i>	—	—	2
<i>Samuel Middleton</i>	—	—	2
<i>Claud Ruffill</i>	—	—	2
<i>William Aldersey</i>	—	—	2
<i>Thomas Kelsall</i>	—	—	2
<i>Charles Floyer</i>	—	—	2
<i>Colonel Richard Smith</i>	—	—	2
<i>Sir Robert Barker</i>	—	—	2
			32

Second Class.			
Reverend <i>W. Parry and Blomer</i> , jointly	—	—	} 2
<i>Charlton</i>	—	—	
<i>French</i>	—	—	} 2
<i>Reed</i>	—	—	
<i>Elare</i>	—	—	} 2
<i>Jekyll</i>	—	—	
<i>Wood</i>	—	—	} 2
<i>Rogers</i>	—	—	
<i>Shewins</i>	—	—	} 2
<i>Williamson</i>	—	—	
<i>Dacres</i>	—	—	} 2
<i>Lane</i>	—	—	

# and Condition, of the EAST INDIA COMPANY.

525

Barwell	—	—	—	}	2
Woodward	—	—	—		
Harris	—	—	—	}	2
Skinner	—	—	—		
Lowell	—	—	—	}	2
Goodwin	—	—	—		
Campbell	—	—	—	}	2
Sir Robert Fletcher	—	—	—		
Peach	—	—	—	}	2
Chapman	—	—	—		
				7	
				14½	

## Third Class.

Wilkins	—	—	—	}	2
Forbes	—	—	—		
Graham	—	—	—	}	2
Hewitt	—	—	—		
Lambert	—	—	—	}	2
Vansittart	—	—	—		
Cafe	—	—	—	}	2
Grueber	—	—	—		
Playsted	—	—	—	}	2
Taylor	—	—	—		
Ellis	—	—	—	}	2
Hunter	—	—	—		

Davidson	—	—	—	}	2
Stibbert	—	—	—		
Champion	—	—	—	}	2
Grant	—	—	—		
Winwood	—	—	—	}	2
Pembie	—	—	—		
Smith	—	—	—	}	2
Galliez	—	—	—		
Anderson	—	—	—	}	2
Robert Hunter	—	—	—		
Williams	—	—	—	}	2
Batbee	—	—	—		
Watts	—	—	—	}	1
Barber	—	—	—		
Watson	—	—	—	}	1
				9	
				4½	

Shares unappropriated

Total 60 Shares.

It appearing from the above Division of Capital Stock, that 4 Shares and ½ remain unappropriated; Agreed the same be accounted for at a proper Time.

Nº 53.

Fort William General Consultation, the 8th September 1766.

THE Proceedings of the Select Committee, from the 12th August to the 22d of September, are laid before the Board; and the Regulations for the Salt Concern therein proposed being approved;

Ordered, They be entered after this Consultation; and that the same be communicated to the following Gentlemen, who are now appointed to constitute the

Committee of Trade, with Directions for carrying the Plan into Execution as soon as possible.

William Brightwell Sumner,  
Harry Vereft,  
Randolph Marriott,  
Hugh Watts,  
Claud Russell, and  
Charles Floyer, Esquires.

Nº 54.

Extract of Lord Clive's Letter to the honourable the Court of Directors, &c. &c. &c.

Calcutta, 6th Sept. 1766.

Gentlemen,

1. IN May last I had the Honour to receive your Letter of the 26th April 1765, per Harcourt; and it gives me particular Satisfaction to remark, That I have not only fulfilled, but in great Measure anticipated, your Expectations in the several important Points therein recommended to my Attention; a Peace firm and lasting is established; the Trade in Salt and Beetle Nut is now regulated upon a Plan which will still perhaps admit of Improvements for the Advantage of the Company; your Military Expences, though increased by Means of the additional Number of Battalions of Seapoys, are much less in Proportion than heretofore; the double Batta is struck off; Discipline is restored to your Army; and Subordination, good Order, and Harmony, have once more taken Place among the Civil Servants at this Settlement.

2. As the new Covenants, and a strict Obedience to your Orders, more particularly in confining the Trade of Individuals to Imports and Exports only, have abridged the Servants of many of their accustomed Emol-

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uments; and as the Company are in Fact the sole Proprietors of the immense Revenues of the Three Provinces, not to mention the 12 or 13 Lack of Rupees per Annum, now arising from the Duty upon Salt and Beetle Nut; permit me to wish that the Gentlemen in your Service, as an Encouragement to Industry and good Behaviour, may be suffered to enjoy the moderate Proportion which is now settled, of those great Advantages that have accrued to their Employers; besides these, I have other Reasons, of great Importance to the Service, to wish this Indulgence may be continued: I therefore flatter myself, that the present Distribution will receive your Approbation. In your Answer to our Dispatches, per Admiral Stevens, my Minute in Committee, dated the 2d March Instant, to which I beg Leave to refer, will fully convey to you my Ideas upon the Subject, as also the several Alterations that I propose shall take Place for the Improvement of the present Plan; but if, after being made acquainted with the flourishing State of your Affairs in Bengal, you should persevere in those Orders you sent per Camden, be assured they will most punctually be complied with.

6 S

Nº 55.

N<sup>o</sup> 55.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 8th September 1766.

25. **B**EFORE this Time, probably, you have determined the Fate of the Inland Trade in Salt, Beetle, and Tobacco, whether it may be continued, under the Regulations we have established, or is totally to be relinquished by your Servants.—We shall therefore only observe on this Occasion, that certain Amendments are now proposed by the President, and adopted by the Select Committee, which we think will remove every Inconvenience observed in the present Establishment of that Trade, and secure to the Company the Power of rewarding or punishing their Servants, according to the Degree of their Merit or Misconduct.

N<sup>o</sup> 56.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated 5th December 1766.

4. **A**S soon as we had closed the Enquiry into Restitution and Donations, the Committee took into Consideration the several other Orders issued by your honourable Board, during the Course of the last Season: Your Remarks on the Inland Trade were so peculiarly striking, and so perfectly agreeable to our own Sentiments, respecting that perpetual Source of Oppression and Complaint, that we determined immediately to apply the most efficacious Remedies to a Disease which must in Time have subverted the Constitution, and endangered the Being of the *East India Company*. By the *Admiral Stevens* you were informed of the Plan we had concerted for carrying on the Trade in Salt, Tobacco, and Beetle Nut, for the Benefit of the Company and their Servants, without Injury to the Nabob, and without Molestation or Oppression of the Natives; it was the best and most equitable System we could then devise; yet Experience hath shewn the Necessity of laying the Trade under farther Restrictions; the Reasons for which, together with the particular Mode of conducting this valuable Branch of Commerce in future, are fully explained in Lord Clive's Minute, entered on our Proceedings. In those Emendations of the Plan in which the Society of Trade was founded, all due Regard has been paid to the sovereign Prerogative of the Company acting as Collectors for the King, and more especially to the scrupulous Distribution of natural Right to the native Inhabitants; whence we flatter ourselves, that the Inland Trade will henceforward prove to you a commodious Fund for rewarding the different Degrees of Merit amongst your Servants, and a fruitful Source for Encouragement to the Industry of the Country People, who are now, without Distinction, admitted to a Participation of its Benefit, upon the most reasonable and moderate Terms.
5. To the Regulations formed for conducting the Business of the Society of Trade, we have added a total Prohibition of another Species of Inland Traffic, in a Variety of Articles usually transported from one District of the interior Country to another, whereby an extensive Field was open for the Abuse of Power, and the most notorious Acts of Fraud and Injustice; all Europeans in your Service, or under your Protection, are now indiscriminately confined to trade in certain stated Articles of Import and Export; the Returns are to be made from the Places where the Goods were sold directly to the Presidency, or to the subordinate Factory from whence they were dispatched; and no circular Traffic, by Way of Barter or otherwise, is in future to be allowed from one Aurung to another, on Pain of Confiscation of the Goods, and Loss of your Service and Protection.

N<sup>o</sup> 57.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee, 16 January 1767.

- W**E have received Orders from the Court of Directors to abolish the Salt Trade: These Orders must be punctually obeyed; but as I am of Opinion that the Trade, upon its present Footing, is rather beneficial than injurious to the Inhabitants of the Country, and that a Continuation of this Indulgence, or some other Equivalent, is become absolutely necessary, and would be an honourable Incitement to Diligence and Zeal in the Company's Service, I flatter myself the Court of Directors may be induced to settle some Plan that will prove agreeable to your Wishes.



Nº 58.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 24th January 1767.

20. WE come now to speak of your Instructions relative to the Inland Trade, which you very justly consider as the Foundation of all the Bloodshed, Massacres, and Confusion which have happened of late Years in Bengal; your Orders are positive, and therefore our Obedience shall be implicit: Accordingly you will observe in our Proceedings, that the Society for conducting this Branch of Traffic stands absolutely abolished on the First Day of September next; the Contracts for the present Year being formed, and large Advances made, it was impossible, without Ruin to Individuals, and Confusion to the Public, to fix an earlier Date for the Execution of your Orders.

21. But although our Duty obliges us to pay the strictest Obedience to your peremptory Orders for abolishing a Trade to which you express so strong an Aversion; the same Duty requires we should freely offer our Sentiments upon a Subject in which we think your immediate Interest, the Good of the Service, and the public Welfare, are deeply concerned. The honourable Court of Directors, and indeed the whole Body of Proprietors, found it necessary to restrain by Covenants their Civil and Military Servants from receiving those Advantages, to which they had for many Years been accustomed; it is likewise proposed, in order that you may enjoy the real Fruits of your late Acquisitions, to make such an Increase of Investment, particularly in Silk, as will effectually deprive your Servants of the usual Benefits arising from private Trade; farther, that the Revenues may not be injured in any Degree, they are prohibited from lending Money at a higher Rate of Interest than 12 per Cent. per Annum; and a Trade by Sea, in the Manufactures of the Country, being the only remaining Channel for the Exertion of Industry, that likewise is choked up by those Shoals of Free Merchants annually imported; who being incumbered with no public Business, nor confined to Residence in Bengal, can carry on a Free Trade with every Port in India to much greater Advantage than your Servants.

22. Taking all these Circumstances into Consideration, reflecting also upon the great Increase of Luxury of late Years, in Consequence of the sudden Influx of Wealth, and that it will not be practicable for a Time, to reduce the Charges of Living to the present Means of supporting those Charges, we adopted, in Consequence of your Permission, the Plan of a regulated and

restricted Inland Trade, as the best Method of rewarding faithful Services, and the surest Means to excite Zeal, and the fairest Mode of carrying on a beneficial Trade, without relinquishing all the Advantages we have hitherto received, or subjecting the Natives to those Encroachments on their natural Rights, of which they have with too much Reason complained.

23. Our Letter by the *Camden*, and Proceedings by the *Cruttenden*, will explain to you the Regulations in the original Plan of the Society, which took Place in the Month of September last. Under these Regulations the Trade can scarce be considered in the odious Light of a Monopoly, since we are rather the Agents for manufacturing the Salt, than the Proprietors of the Trade; it is sold in Calcutta to the Natives only, and to the utter Exclusion of all Europeans, at an easier Rate than it could ever be procured when under Management of the Government, before we were admitted to any Participation: The Natives transport it to all the different Parts of the Country, under such Limitations that it must reach the Hands of the Consumer at a stated and moderate Price; hereby the People sensibly feel the Justice and Lenity of our Government; and your Servants, who have attained the highest Stations, after a Course of many Years spent in this unfavourable Climate, reap the Reward of their Services, and enjoy the Means of securing that Independence to which they have so equitable a Claim.

24. We are now directed totally to renounce all Share in, and Benefit arising from, this Trade; it must be made over to the Natives; the Government must of Course come into Possession; nor can it be carried on otherwise than upon the ancient Footing of farming it out to Ministers, Officers, Favourites, and Dependants on the Government; who will rear immense Fortunes upon the Oppression and Ruin of the Public, in Despite of our utmost Influence and Endeavours. There are at present our Suspicions; Time alone can verify our Conjectures: You no doubt will maturely consider, how far it is probable Men will continue honest against all the Seductions of Interest, and whether it may not be necessary to strengthen the Ties of that Duty expected from your Servants, by the tighter Bonds of Gratitude, for the Affluence which they enjoy during the Time of their Servitude, and the Indemnity they ought to secure before the Close of their Labours.

Nº 59.

Letter from Lord Clive to the honourable Committee of Treasury and Correspondence, &c. &c. &c. dated 28th August 1767.

16. THE Necessity of rewarding the superior Servants, both Civil and Military, is obvious; since the large Investment required by the Company makes it impossible for Individuals, who perform their Duty, to acquire any Thing considerable by private Trade. The Means of regulating this Reward has frequently engaged my Attention; and after the most ma-

ture Deliberation, I have found none so convenient, proper, or equitable, as the Trade in Salt. If you grant a Commission upon the Revenues, the Sum will not only be large, but known to the World; the Allowance being publicly ascertained, every Man's Proportion will at Times be the Occasion of much Discontent, Envy, and Jealousy; the Great will interfere in

your Appointments, and Noblemen will perpetually solicit you to provide for the younger Branches of their Families; a Commission upon your Investments, whether upon the Provision in *Bengal* or upon the Sales in *Europe*, is liable to the same Objections; but if you allow your Servants the Liberty of benefitting themselves by the Trade in Salt, the following Conveniencies will result:

17. 1st. An Advance of Four or Five hundred thousand Pounds is required for the carrying on this Trade: If it be carried on by your Servants, the Advance and the Risk will be theirs; if it be carried on by you, the Money must be advanced out of the Treasury at your Risk, and you will consequently have the less Specie to send Home.

18. 2d. It is very easy to proportion it in such a Manner as that your Servants shall not gain to a larger Amount than they are in Justice or Equity intitled to.

19. 3d. By the bringing it to *Calcutta* and *Dacca*, by the Loss of Boats, by the Failure of Contractors, and by many other Accidents, the Profits must always be precarious and uncertain, and consequently unknown, except to the few who may take the Trouble to investigate the Matter.

20. 4th. It will be looked upon as a Profit arising from Trade, and not from the Pockets of the Company; which might be urged, if Rewards were given out of the Revenues; but here you can assert, that this Indulgence, the only equitable one you have to grant, is in Consideration of the large Investments ordered, which, if complied with, must swallow up the Trade of Individuals; and indeed, if this Indulgence be properly proportioned, all those Servants, who by their Age and Standing are intitled to Emoluments, would have no Reason to complain, even were they altogether excluded from every Article of Trade which can interfere with the Company's Investment.

21. 5th. Should the Salt Trade be carried on by the Company, the great unavoidable Advance made for that Purpose, out of their Treasury in *Bengal*, would lower the Interest of Money so considerably as to be of infinite Prejudice to those Individuals, who, having no Trade to depend upon, subsist chiefly upon the Interest of their Capitals there; and it is to be observed, that the high Interest has kept a great Quantity of private Treasure in *India*, which would otherwise have been sent Home in Bulk long ago.

22. It is an erroneous Opinion, that Salt was formerly an open Trade. It ever was and ever must be a Monopoly: Some great Favourite or Favourites always had the Whole in their own Hands; for which they not only paid an annual Penance, or Acknowledgement in Money, to the Subah, but likewise gave considerable Presents, both in Money and in Curiosities, to him and to his Minister: But the Natives can have no just Cause of Complaint, provided they be furnished with this Article upon more reasonable Terms than formerly, which will certainly be the Case, if the Plan sent Home by the *Cruickshanks* be adopted, with a few Amendments.

23. The Salt Trade should, in my Opinion, be confined to the select Committee, the Council, the Field Officers, and the Senior and Junior Merchants; the Writers should be considered merely as Apprentices for Five Years, and not allowed any mercantile Indulgence whatsoever, neither by Duffuck, nor by any other Means, directly or indirectly; but then their Pays, or Allowances from the Company, should be so far in-

creased as to admit of a comfortable Subsistence; when they become Factors, they should be permitted the Liberty to trade, and Duffucks should be granted to them, as an Indulgence; when they arrive at the Rank of Junior Merchants, they will then be intitled to Shares in the Salt Trade.

24. Tobacco, which was usually included in the Idea of the Salt and the Beetle Nut Trade, was given up to the Committee, and left as an Article in common: The Beetle Nut, in my Opinion, should likewise be given up; and though by these Means, the Advantages of those, who are allowed the exclusive Trade in Salt, will be much lessened, yet there will remain a Sufficiency. It is however to be remembered, that both these Articles ought to pay considerable Duties to the Government, more especially the Beetle Nut, as has always been customary.

25. If the Salt Plan be adopted, I think the Governor's Commission should continue upon its present Footing.

26. The Supervisor of the Revenues should attend to that Business only, and therefore should be entirely excluded from Trade, in like Manner with the Governor; but as a Compensation, he ought to be allowed a Proportion, equal to the Second, in Salt.

27. The Second should be allowed Three Shares; the Supervisor of the Revenues Three Shares; the Commanding Officer, and the other Members of the Select Committee, Two Shares; the Council, and each of the Colonels, One Share and an Half; the Senior Merchants and the Lieutenant Colonels, Two Thirds of a Share; the Junior Merchants and Majors, One Third of a Share.

28. As you will find it absolutely necessary to send out able and experienced Men to superintend several of the Departments in *Bengal*, the best of every Profession, Engineers, a Surgeon General and Surgeon, Secretaries and Sub-secretaries, Accountants and Sub-accountants, Chaplains, &c. will rejoice to go Abroad, upon being admitted to share in the Salt Trade: Many Conveniencies will hereby arise to the Company, and this One in particular, that you can engage Men of real Merit to accept of your Service, without appearing to reward them immediately with the Company's Money.

29. Your Servants in general will, I hope, entertain a just Sense of your Indulgence on this Head; and I would have it ever considered as an Indulgence due only to Merit in Station: When the Conduct of those intitled to Shares, by their Rank or Standing, shall happen to fall under your Censure, an Abridgment of, or Suspension from, these Emoluments, will be the ready Means of inflicting Punishment; and a temporary Increase will, at the same Time be a no less obvious Method of regulating Rewards, to those who shall deserve well upon any particular Occasion, or approve themselves to be of distinguished Merit in the Service.

30. I doubt much whether *Sujab Dowlah's* Country can furnish any Thing of Consequence for your Investments; *Betwa* and *Napaul* produce Gold, Cassia, and Elephants Teeth; but I believe not in great Quantity. The Increase of your Investments in *Bengal* must be the Result of the Enquiry and diligent Search of able disinterested Servants; inspired with a true Sense of Honour and Zeal for your Service, they may effect great Things; and I think that the Indulgence of the Salt Trade will probably answer those desirable Purposes.

N<sup>o</sup> 60.

Batb, 14th November 1767.

Gentlemen,  
THE Duty which I owe to the Company will not suffer me to be silent, on a Subject wherein their Interest seems so deeply concerned.

I learn, and with Surprise, that you intend to lay open the Salt Trade, receiving only a Duty of Ten Rupees upon every Hundred Maund, at the Collaries or Places where the Salt is made.

Permit me to repeat to you, that the Trade in Salt was always a Monopoly; *Caja Wazzed*, and other Merchants long before him, giving to the Nabob and his Ministers, near (£. 200,000) Two hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*, in Money and Presents, for the exclusive Privilege. The Natives never had the Advantages you now propose to give them, and will be greatly affronted at so unexpected and extraordinary an Indulgence.

Honourable the Committee  
of Correspondence, &c.

Although you may think proper to deprive your Servants of those Advantages, which I so strongly recommended in my Minute in Committee, upon the Subject of new modelling the Salt Trade; yet I cannot help taking the Liberty to request you will most maturely deliberate upon your present Plan, before you issue an Order which will deprive the Company of Three hun-

dred thousand Pounds (£. 300,000) *per Annum*, a Sum which, I am of Opinion, they are justly intitled to, if they receive the Benefits lately received by their Servants, and the Duties which the Select Committee had allotted to them upon this Trade; whereas the Company, by your laying the Trade open, and taking only Ten Rupees *per Hundred Maund*, will receive only (£. 31,500) Thirty-one thousand Five hundred Pounds.

I must farther presume to observe to you, that, even upon the Plan you now propose, the Trade will, as it ever must, continue in some Degree a Monopoly; and that the Servants, from the Power and Influence they have throughout the Country, may be concerned in it to what Extent they will, under their Banyans, and the Black Merchants.

It was only by Accident that I became acquainted with your Intentions. I am entirely a Stranger to the Contents of the Letters, which are now upon the Point of being dispatched, by the *Admiral Watson*, to the Governor and Council, and to the Select Committee, of Bengal; but I hope this Representation will reach you in good Time, that you may re-consider an Object so very important to the Company's Interest. I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant,

Choe.

N<sup>o</sup> 61.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the President and Council at Fort William, Bengal; dated 20th November 1767.

88. WE have taken your Plan for conducting the Salt Trade, as contained in your Proceedings of the 8th September 1766, into our most serious Consideration; and having revised all that we and you have wrote, on the Subject of the Inland Trade in general, and of Salt in particular, we are the more convinced of the absolute Necessity of excluding all Persons whatsoever, excepting the Natives only, from being concerned therein; and we accordingly hereby ratify and confirm the Orders we gave in our Letters, of the 19th February, and 17th May, 1766, That no Company's Servant, Free Merchant, or any *European*, shall, in any Mode or Shape whatsoever, either by themselves or Agents, directly or indirectly, trade in or be concerned in carrying on an Inland Trade, in Salt, Beetle Nut, Tobacco, or in any other Articles produced and consumed in the Country; and such Trade is hereby absolutely abolished, and put a final End to, agreeable to our before-mentioned Orders; and further, if any of the before-described Persons shall, directly or indirectly, carry on or be concerned in such Inland Trade, or in farming the Callaries, or making Salt; if a Company's Servant, he is to be immediately dismissed the Company's Service, and from all others the Company's Protection is to be forthwith withdrawn.

89. Having thus prohibited our Servants from being

concerned in the Inland Trade, the Allowance of 1; *per Cent*. Commission on the Dewanny Revenues, settled by you on the Governor, for relinquishing all Share in the Salt Trade, is absolutely to determine and cease upon the First Day of September 1767.

90. Past Experience has so impressed us with the Idea of the Necessity of confining our Servants, and *Europeans* residing under our Protection, within the ancient Limits of our Export and Import Trade, that we look on every Innovation in the Inland Trade as an Intrusion on the natural Right of the Natives of the Country, who now more particularly claim our Protection; and we esteem it as much our Duty to maintain this Barrier between the Two commercial Rights, as to defend the Provinces from Foreign Invasions.

91. Our principal Object being the Ease and Convenience of the Natives, we have considered in what Manner the important Trade in Salt can be carried on, so as to supply the whole Country with this material Necessary of Life on the easiest Terms, and the least liable to Oppression.

92. For this Purpose we direct, That the Salt Trade be laid open to the Natives in general, under the following Regulations; *viz.* That all the Callaries or Salt Pans, within the Company's Jurisdiction, in the *Calcutta* Purganahs and Company's Lands, and the Pro-

vines of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and *Chittagong*, be put up to public Sale at their respective Capitals, and sold to the best Bidder, Five Callaries in each Lot; and that no One Person be allowed to take more than 30 Lots; which we judge will enable him to make about 45 or 50 Thousand *Buzar* Maunds of Salt in the Year; and that Two Months Notice be given all over the Country before the Sale begins; and all *Europeans* are hereby expressly prohibited from being Bidders at such Sales, or holding any of the Salt Works in their Hands, either directly or indirectly.

93. If there are any Callaries under the Jurisdiction of the Nabob's Government, the same Method is to be recommended to the Administration at *Moorsheebad*.

94. It is represented to us, That the Salt made in every Part of the Country, except what is necessary for the Consumption of the Districts where it is produced, should be carried to, and landed at, *Rajah Bary*, and a Creek or small River opposite to *Barnagore*; and the People of the Country to make their Purchases there, and pay a Duty on all Salt carried from thence, at such Rate as will, upon the nearest Estimation you can possibly make, produce to the Revenue £. 100,000 at least, and not exceeding £. 120,000 *per Annum*; the Amount being in this Manner ascertained, it will be easy to settle how many *Sicca* Rupees *per* One hundred *Buzar* Maunds it will amount to, and the Duty is to be rated accordingly. Could we from any of your Registers have learned what Quantity of Salt is made and consumed in the Country, we might then have had sufficient Grounds to have proceeded on to settle, in this Letter, with Precision, the Duty; but not having such Informations, we must leave it to you to cause it to be adjusted in the before-mentioned Manner.

95. If, besides the above, there are any other Places by which Salt may pass up the Country, in any of the Provinces, you are to conform to the Intention of this Order, with respect to such Places.

96. That on Payment of the above Duty to the Country Collectors, the Purchaser is to receive a Duffuck, to carry his Salt to any Part of the Country he chuses, free from all other Duties.—The like Duty is to be levied on all Salt carried by Land through the *Pakcheet* Passes, from the Countries of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, and other Places.

97. The collecting the said Duty, we conceive, will fall under the Orders of the Government of *Moorsheebad*, and will be accounted for in the Revenues of the *Dewanny*.

98. That all Makers of Salt be obliged to deliver in every Year an Account of the Quantity of Salt they have made, and at what Places the same has been landed, which must appear upon the Face of your Proceedings.

99. If any Boats are found smuggling of Salt, the same to be confiscated to the Government, Boat and Salt; which will prevent the Owners of the Boats from receiving any Salt that has not paid the Duty; and that Notice of the same be published all over the Country.

100. That all Foreign Salt landed in *Bengal* pay the before-mentioned Duty, or more, if it shall be found necessary, for the Encouragement of the Manufacturers of Salt in *Bengal*.

101. To prevent all Abuse of the *English* Influence, we think proper to enjoin, and the same is accordingly to be made known in the most public Manner; That any Boat having Salt on Board, hoisting *English* Colours, or pretending to an *English* Duffuck, shall be liable to Confiscation, together with the Cargo; and the Nabob's Ministers will seize the same, as forfeited to the Government.

102. Having established these Regulations for the Salt Trade, we now confirm our Orders for the Prohibition of our Servants engaging in all other Inland Trade, in Articles produced and consumed in the Coun-

try, save only such Articles as are for Exportation, by Shipping, to a foreign Market; which will be intitled to an *English* Duffuck, as Part of the Export Trade, within the Intention of the *Phirmaund*; and here we remark with some Surprise, in the Committee's Proceedings of the 22d *October*, that Beetle Nut and Tobacco are among those Articles; which is contrary to the Spirit of the *Phirmaund* and the Tenor of our Orders.

103. The Duties to be collected on the other Inland Trade will fall under the Direction of the Administration at *Moorsheebad*; in which you will recommend the same Attention to the Good of the Natives, as we have in these Regulations for the Salt Trade.

104. We hope this Freedom of Trade will be the Means of keeping Salt at a low Price; but if ever it should be sold, at the Places we have limited, at or above One hundred and Forty *Sicca* Rupees for 100 *Buzar* Maunds, including the Duty, we shall esteem it too high a Price for the Natives to pay; and we do expect that, under your Influence and that of the *Moorsheebad* Administration, the Price never exceeds the said 140 *Sicca* Rupees, unless in the Case of some general Calamity; for we had rather the Duty should be diminished than Salt should exceed that Price.

105. As the Trade of our Servants is to be confined to the Articles of Import and Export only, in which they will be considerably affected by the great Demands for extending the Company's Investments; and considering the great Increase of Business, in which our principal Servants are necessarily engaged, and which demand their utmost Care and Attention; we are come to a Resolution to give them a reasonable Encouragement to exert themselves with Zeal and Alacrity in their several Departments, but which they are to look upon as a free Gift from the Hand of their Employers, offered to them Annually, so long as the present Revenues shall remain within the Company, and their Behaviour shall continue to merit such a Reward: We therefore hereby order and direct,

106. That you draw out an Annual Account of the Sums received from the *Dewanny*, deducting thereout the stipulated Payments to the King and the Nabob, and the Allowance to the Nabob's Ministers—also of the Revenues of the Provinces of *Burdwan*, *Midnapore*, *Chittagong*, and the *Calcutta* Pargunnahs; from which are to be deducted Lord *Clive's* Jaghire, and the ordinary Charges of Collection.

107. Upon the Amount of the said net Revenues you are hereby indulged to draw a Commission of Two and an Half *per Cent*.

108. The Sum which shall be the Produce of the said 2½ *per Cent*, is to be divided into 100 Parts or Shares; which Parts or Shares are to be appropriated in the following Manner; *viz*.

The Governor is to have	—	—	31 Shares,
The Second in Council	—	—	4½ Ditto,
The rest of the Select Committee, not having a Chiefship, each	—	—	3½ Ditto,
The rest of the Council, not having a Chiefship, each	—	—	1½

109. For it is our Meaning and Directions, that the Chiefs of *Cossimbuzar*, *Patna*, *Dacca*, and *Chittagong*, are not to have any Proportion of the said Shares.

110. Being convinced that the Employes of Resident at the Durbar, and Chief of *Cossimbuzar*, cannot, from the Importance and Extent of the Business of each Department, be properly executed by one Person, we therefore direct that they be from this Time forward separated, and that some other Member of the Council be appointed to the said Chiefship: We do not make this Regulation from any Failure of Attention on the Part of Mr. *Sykes*, with whose Conduct we are perfectly satisfied.

111. And in Consideration of the extraordinary Trouble and Attention, which the Resident at the Durbar must necessarily have in the due Execution of that important Post, we direct that he be allowed Four Shares and an Half, but this is to be understood to be in full, and instead of such Shares as are assigned, as above mentioned, to his Rank in Council, or as a Member of the Select Committee.

112. The large Proportion allotted to the Governor, in the before-mentioned Commission of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. is in Consideration of his relinquishing, and not being concerned in, any Trade whatever, even in Articles of Import and Export, and all Presents or other Gratifications, as expressed in the Deed of Renunciation in your Proceedings of the 22d September 1766, which we approve and confirm; and direct that all Governors do execute the like Instrument on their entering into their Office: Our Inducement for annexing so great an Appointment to the Station of President and Governor, is in full Expectation of his giving up his whole Time and Attention to the faithful Discharge of his Duty, and that, being excluded from all Trade himself, he may, and we accordingly depend that he be, vigilant in watching and detecting all Abuses committed by others.

113. You are to observe that the Shares of the Commission, here specified for the Governor, is additional to his present Salary of Three thousand Pounds *per Annum*, and his Mint Duty and Confilage; and the Shares to other Servants are to be in Addition to their present Appointments of Salary, Diet Money, and the Posts they may respectively hold, excepting the Chiefships, as before excepted.

114. Being satisfied how much our Trade and Possessions may be affected by the good Services of the Company's Military Officers; therefore, the better to encourage them to exert themselves in the Preservation of these great Objects, we have thought proper to allow them also to share in the following Manner; *viz.*

The Commander in Chief (as such only, he not being to share as a Member of the Select Committee or Council) to have - 7; Shares.			
Colonels, each	—	—	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Lieutenant Colonels, each	—	—	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Majors, each	—	—	$\frac{1}{2}$

115. The ample Provision here assigned to the Commander in Chief, assures him of an honourable Competency; and we expect Colonel *Smith*, and his Successors in the Command, shall continue to shew an unremitting

Attention to their Duty, and the preventing all Frauds and Abuses in the Expences of the Army.

116. The Allowance made to the rest of the Field Officers are such as put our Service on a more advantageous Footing than any other Military Service in the World, and gives them the Prospect of improving their Fortunes by a gradual Progression.

117. After all the Allowances are made to the Company's principal Civil and Military Servants, as before directed, a considerable Proportion of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. Commission will remain unappropriated; in order therefore to encourage the rest of the Company's Military Officers, and to remove every Complaint of Reduction of Double Batta, we have thought proper to make them, over and above their present established Pay, the following Allowances, by Way of Donation or Gratuity only, and which are to be paid them accordingly; *viz.*

To a Captain—Three Shillings a Day;
To a Lieutenant—Two Shillings a Day;
To an Ensign—One Shilling a Day.

But we must here observe to you, and accordingly direct, that neither a Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, or Major, is to be allowed the Three Shillings a Day as Captain of a Company; the Shares we have allotted them in the Produce of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. upon the Revenues being in full of our Donation or Gratuity, as well for their being Captains as Field Officers; and here it is proper to inform you, that it is our positive Order and Direction, that the Double Batta be never restored to any of our Officers whatsoever.

118. We have now to add, and we accordingly direct, that the before-mentioned Commission of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. do commence from the 1st Day of September 1767; but as we have before ordered that the Allowance made to the Governor, of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. on the Dewanny Revenues, is absolutely to determine and cease on that Day; we further direct, that, from the said 1st Day of September last to the Time of the Arrival of these Advices, an Allowance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. on the Company's nett Territorial Revenues, be made to the Governor, and that then the Sum arising from the remaining  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. which completes the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. Commission, be proportioned among our principal Servants Civil and Military, *pro rata*, according to the respective Shares allotted them by our present Appointment; and you are to take Notice, that from and after your receiving these Dispatches, the Amount of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. Commission is to be appropriated in the Manner before directed.

Nº 62.

Extrañ from Instructions to Commissioners.

15th September 1769.

27. **W** F. enjoin you to enquire into such Abuses as have been committed or practised in carrying on and continuing an exclusive Trade in the Articles of Salt, Beetle Nur, and Tobacco, contrary to the express Directions and Orders transmitted by the Court of Directors. We direct you to enquire into the Reasons why such Orders have been disobeyed or neglected; and it is our Intention, that these Trades be laid open to all Per-

sons, as well Natives as Europeans; and that English Subjects be permitted to trade therein only upon the same Footing, and under the same Duties and Restrictions, as Natives or other Subjects do. You will take particular Care that these Duties or Regulations be not evaded, under Pretence of any Respect due unto, or the Influence of, the English Flag.

Nº 63.

N<sup>o</sup> 63.

THIS Indenture, made the Eleventh Day of September, in the 5th Year of the Reign of, &c. and in the Year of our Lord 1765, between the Right honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron of Plassey, in the Kingdom of Ireland, Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Bath, and President and Governor of Fort William, at Bengal, in the East Indies; William B. Sumner, Brigadier General John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelst, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Ascanius William Senior, R. L. and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William aforesaid, Esquires, for and on Behalf of the Court of Directors of the honourable the United East India Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, on the one Part; and the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, being a Committee, nominated, constituted, and appointed, by the Proprietors intitled to the exclusive joint Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the Provinces of Bengal, Babar, and Orissa, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on, the said Trade, on the other Part: Whereas in and by a certain Deed, or Instrument in Writing, bearing Date the 18th Day of September 1765; and made, or mentioned to be made, between the said Proprietors to the said joint Trade, on the one Part; and the above-named William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, on the other Part; it is witnessed, amongst other Things, That, in order for the better carrying on and managing the said joint Trade in a beneficial Manner, and most for the Benefit and Advantage of the said Proprietors, it was and is agreed, by and between the Parties in the said Deed mentioned, that the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize should, from and after the 18th Day of September 1765, be conducted, managed, transacted, and carried on, by them the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, constituting a Committee for the Management thereof, but with the proper Monies, and at the joint Risk and Hazard, and for the joint Account, Use, and Benefit, of all the said Proprietors, their several and respective Executors and Administrators, in the several Proportions therein set forth. And it was and is also further agreed, by and between the said Parties, that the Form and Signature under which the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize should be conducted and carried on, should be the Sign Manual of them the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, for the Time being, constituting a Committee as aforesaid, together with the Seal of the Society of Trade, with full Power and Authority to the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, to use the same, from the said 18th Day of September 1765, until the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize should cease and be no longer carried on for the Use of the said Proprietors, as in and by the said Deed, Reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear. Now this Indenture witnesseth, That, in Consideration of the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray's taking upon themselves the sole Management and Conduction of the said joint Trade, on Behalf of the said Proprietors, and having laid out and expended large Sums of Money to carry on the same, and in order to enforce the Execution of all and every the Covenants, Clauses, Grants, Articles, and Agreements, in the before-recited Deed mentioned

and contained, as the same are therein respectively expressed: And also, in Consideration of the Duties and Customs that shall or may arise or accrue by reason of the carrying on the said exclusive joint Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the said herein before recited Deed, to be paid to them the said Robert Lord Clive, W. B. Sumner, J. C. C. S. P. H. V. J. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. S. M. R. L. and G. G. as President and Council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on Account of the said honourable the United East India Company, by them the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. and their Successors, constituting a Committee as aforesaid, for and on Account of the Proprietors intitled to the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize, in the Proportions herein after mentioned; that is to say, 35 per Cent. on Salt, each 100 Maunds to be valued and reckoned at 90 Rupees, the Sum of 10 per Cent. on Beetle Nut, to be valued and reckoned at the Prime Cost; and the Sum of 25 per Cent. on Tobacco, to be valued and reckoned at the Prime Cost; and also, that the said joint Trade and Merchandize may not cease or be dissolved, before the Expiration of the Term in the said recited Deed mentioned, or any Hindrance or Stoppage be put to the same, the said Robert Lord Clive as President, and the said W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. Verelst, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Ascanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as Council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on Behalf of the said Court of Directors of the honourable the United East India Company aforesaid, do hereby, for themselves and their Successors, their Executors and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, That, provided any Order or Direction should issue or be made by the said Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize to be dissolved, or put to an End, or that may hinder and stop the carrying on the same, or any Part thereof, or contain any Thing contrary to the Covenants, Clauses, Grants, Articles, or Agreements, in the said before recited Deed mentioned and contained, or any of them, so that the same may thereby become void and of no Effect; then and in that Case, they the said Robert Lord Clive, as President, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelst, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Ascanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as Council of Fort William aforesaid, shall and will, well and truly save harmless, and keep indemnified, them, the said William Brighwell Sumner, Harry Verelst, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and all the Proprietors intitled or to be intitled to the said joint Trade, and their Successors, their Executors and Administrators; and also shall and will, notwithstanding any Order or Direction to be issued to the contrary as aforesaid, keep up, continue, and enforce, or cause to be kept up, continued, and enforced, the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize, for the Term of One Year, to commence from the 18th Day of September 1765, and expire on the 18th Day of September 1766, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the said before recited Deed, and of all the Parties thereto, as if the said Order and Direction had never been made or issued; and further, that the said Robert Lord Clive, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. V. Francis

Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Afcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. and their Successors, as President and Council afore said, shall and will allow unto them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, constituting a Committee as afore said, full and sufficient Time, after the Expiration of the said Term of One Year as afore said, to sell, vend, and dispose of, all such Goods and Merchandize, belonging to the said joint Trade and Concern, as shall at that Time remain in their Hands unsold and not disposed of, and also to collect and gather in all such Sum and Sums of Money as shall be any ways due or owing unto them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, or their Successors, on Account of the said Proprietors and joint Trade afore said, and to settle and adjust all Books and Accounts belonging to and concerning the same; and the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and George Gray, do hereby for themselves and rest of the Proprietors intitled to the said exclusive joint Trade and Merchandize of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, as afore said, and their Successors, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said Robert Lord Clive, W. B. S. J. C. C. S. P. H. V. L. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. J. M. R. L. and G. G. as President and Council of Fort William afore said, and

their Successors, for the Time being; that they the said W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. constituting a Committee as afore said, and their Successors, from Time to Time, shall and will well and truly pay and discharge the Duties and Customs of the said Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, at and after the Rate herein before mentioned and expressed, of and concerning the same, to the Right honourable the President and Council of Fort William afore said, and their Successors, or to whom they shall from Time to Time direct and appoint to receive the same; and the said Robert Lord Clive, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Francis Sykes, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Afcanius William Senior, and Samuel Middleton, do hereby bind and oblige themselves and their Successors, their Executors and Administrators, jointly, unto them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, on Behalf of themselves and the said Proprietors, in the penal Sum of \_\_\_\_\_ for the true and faithful observing, performing, fulfilling, and keeping, all and every the Covenants herein contained, and which, on their Parts and Behalf are or ought to be performed, observed, fulfilled, and kept as afore said. In witness, &c.

R. Whitall.  
Oct. 1765.

N<sup>o</sup> 64.

THIS Indenture, made the Eighteenth Day of September, in the Fifth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-five; between the Right honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron of Plassey, in the Kingdom of Ireland, Knight Companion of the Most honourable Order of the Bath, and President and Governor of Fort William at Bengal, in the East Indies; William Brightwell Sumner, Brigadier General John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verefl, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Afcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William afore said, Esquires, for and on Behalf of the Court of Directors of the honourable the United East India Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, on the one Part; and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, being a Committee nominated, constituted, and appointed by the Proprietors, intitled to the exclusive Joint Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on, the said Trade, on the other Part. Whereas, in and by a certain Deed or Instrument in Writing, bearing Date the Eighteenth Day of September, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-five, and made, or mentioned to be made, between the said Proprietors of the said Joint Trade, on the one Part; and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, on the other Part: It is witnessed, amongst other Things, That in Order for the better carrying on and managing the said Joint Trade in a beneficial Manner, and moit for the Benefit and Advantage of the said Proprietors, it was and is agreed, by and between the Parties in the said Deed mentioned, that the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize should, from Vol. III.

and after the said Eighteenth Day of September, be conducted, managed, transacted, and carried on, by them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, constituting a Committee for the Management thereof; but with the proper Monies, and at the Joint Risk and Hazard, and on the Joint Account, Use, and Benefit, of all the said Proprietors, their several and respective Executors and Administrators, in the several Proportions therein set forth; and it was and is also further agreed, by and between the said Parties, That the Form and Signature underneath which the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize should be conducted and carried on, should be the Sign Manual of them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, for the Time being, constituting a Committee, as afore said, together with the Seal of the Society of Trade, with full Power and Authority to the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and their Successors, to use the same, from the said Eighteenth Day of September, One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-five, until the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize should cease, and be no longer carried on for the Use of the said Proprietors, as in and by the said Deed, Reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear: Now this Indenture witnesseth, That in Consideration of the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, taking upon themselves the sole Management and Conduction of the said Joint Trade, for and on Behalf of the said Proprietors, and having laid out and expended large Sums of Money to carry on the same, and in order to enforce the Execution of all and every the Covenants, Clauses, Articles, and Agreements, in the said before recited Deed mentioned and contained, as the same are therein respectively expressed, and also in Consideration of the Duties and Customs that shall or may arise or accrue by Reason of the carrying on the said exclusive Joint Trade of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, according to the true Intent

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and Meaning of the said herein before recited Deed, to be paid to them the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verefl, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, &c. as President and Council of Fort William aforesaid, for and on Account of the said honourable the United East India Company, by them the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their Successors, constituting a Committee, as aforesaid, for and on Account of the Proprietors intitled to the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize, in the Proportions herein after mentioned; that is to say, the Sum of Thirty-five per Cent. on Salt, each One hundred Maunds to be valued and reckoned at Ninety Arcot Rupees; the Sum of Ten per Cent. on Beetle Nut, and Twenty-five per Cent. on Tobacco, both to be valued and reckoned at the Prime Cost; and likewise, that the said Joint Trade and Merchandize may not cease or be dissolved before the Expiration of the Term in the said herein before recited Deed mentioned, or any Hindrance or Stoppage be put to the same, the said Right honourable Lord Clive, as President, and the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. as Council of Fort William, aforesaid, for and on Behalf of the said Court of Directors of the honourable the United East India Company aforesaid, do hereby, for themselves and their Successors, their Executors and Administrators, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their Successors, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators, that, provided any Order should issue or be made by the said Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize to be dissolved, or put to an End, or that may hinder and stop the carrying on of the same, or any Part thereof, or contain any Thing contrary to the Covenants, Clauses, Grants, Articles, or Agreements, in the said herein before recited Deed mentioned and contained, or any of them, so that the same may thereby become void and of no Effect; then, and in that Case, they the said Robert Lord Clive, as President, William Brightwell Sumner, &c. as Council of Fort William aforesaid, shall and will, well and truly save harmless, and keep indemnified, them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, and all the Proprietors intitled, or to be intitled, to the said exclusive Joint Trade, and their Successors, their Executors and Administrators; and also shall and will, notwithstanding any Order or Direction to be issued to the contrary as aforesaid, keep up, continue, and enforce, or cause to be kept up, continued, and enforced, the said exclusive Joint Trade, for the Term of One Year, to commence from the

said Eighteenth Day of September One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-five, and expire on the Eighteenth Day of September One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the said before recited Deed, and of all the Parties thereto, as if the said Order had never been made or issued: And further, That the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their Successors, as President and Council aforesaid, shall and will allow unto them, the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. constituting a Committee as aforesaid, full and sufficient Time, after the Expiration of the said Term of One Year as aforesaid, to sell, vend, and dispose of, all such Goods and Merchandize, belonging to the said Joint Trade and Concern, as shall at that Time remain in their Hands unfold and not disposed of; and also, to collect or gather in all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be any ways due or owing unto them the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, or their Successors, on Account of the said Proprietors and Joint Trade aforesaid, and to settle and adjust all Books and Accounts belonging to, and concerning the same; and the said William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, do hereby, for themselves and the rest of the Proprietors intitled to the said exclusive Joint Trade and Merchandize of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, as aforesaid, and their Successors, covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, &c. as President and Council of Fort William aforesaid, and their Successors, for the Time being, That they the said William Brightwell Sumner, &c. constituting a Committee as aforesaid, and their Successors, from Time to Time, shall and will well and truly pay and discharge the Duties and Customs of the said Articles of Salt, Beetle Nut, and Tobacco, at and after the Rates herein before mentioned and expressed of and concerning the same, to the Right honourable the President and Council of Fort William aforesaid, or their Successors, or to whom they shall from Time to Time appoint to receive the same: And lastly, The said Parties to these Presents, and every of them, do hereby bind and oblige themselves and their Successors, their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, the one to the other of them, in the penal Sum of Eight Lacks of Current Rupees, for the true and faithful Performance of all and every the Covenants herein contained, and which, on their Parts and Behalfs, are or ought to be performed, fulfilled, and kept as aforesaid. In Witness whereof, all the Parties to these Presents have hereunto set their Hands and Seals, the Day and Year first above written.

(Signed)  
Ralph Lyecester (L. S.)  
John Carnac (L. S.)  
Sam Middleton (L. S.)  
H. Verefl. (L. S.)

(Signed)  
A. W. Senior (L. S.)  
Clive (L. S.)  
Hugh Watts (L. S.)  
W. B. Sumner (L. S.)

(Signed)  
Fraw Sykes (L. S.)  
George Gray (L. S.)  
Rand Marriott (L. S.)

(Copy.)

The Right honourable Robert Lord Clive, President, and the Council of Fort William, in Bengal.

TO  
William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verefl, Ralph Lyecester, and George Gray, constituting a Committee for managing the exclusive Joint Trade of Salt, &c.

Deed of Indemnity, and to protect the said Trade.



STATE of the DUANNEE REVENUES of the *East India Company's* Territorial Acquisitions, from *May 1765* to the 1st *Adices*, with the Amount of Charges, Collecting, &c. and Civil and Military Charges, with the *Nett Annual Balance*.

and Condition, of the EAST INDIA COMPANY.

		R E V E N U E S.							C H A R G E S.				Net Annual Balance; Or, Revenues more than Charges.	
May.	April.	Gross Collections.	Charges of Collection, &c.	Tribute to the King paid.	Nabob's Stipend paid.	Salaries to Ministers, &c. paid.	Jaghire paid.	Commission paid on the Revenues.	Nett Revenues.	Civil.	Military.	Buildings and Fortifications.	Total Charges.	Lfr.
		Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.	Lfr.
1765	1766	2,258,227	174,442	26,897	330,125	4,930	40,406	—	1,681,427	214,353	886,909	109,098	1,210,360	471,067
1766	1767	3,805,817	437,014	205,766	534,353	72,745	29,912	18,433	2,577,594	269,855	903,831	100,407	1,274,093	1,253,501
1767	1768	3,608,009	348,965	300,030	371,824	175,606	29,096	23,393	2,359,005	273,308	991,986	228,109	1,487,383	871,622
1768	1769	3,787,207	335,966	356,610	413,330	143,394	29,096	101,620	2,402,191	296,373	1,018,577	258,179	1,573,149	829,062
1769	1770	3,341,976	349,849	282,005	402,928	153,540	29,096	35,190	2,089,368	300,598	1,102,132	349,826	1,752,556	336,812
1770	1771	3,332,343	358,091	382,473	371,249	136,054	29,096	42,204	2,007,176	254,908	1,093,066	384,174	1,732,088	275,088
Lfr.		20,133,579	1,984,327	1,553,781	2,423,809	691,359	186,702	226,840	13,066,761	1,609,395	5,996,421	1,433,793	9,039,609	4,037,152

*East India House,*  
26th February 1773.

Errors Excepted.

*John Hoole,*

Auditor of *Indica's* Accounts.

N<sup>o</sup> 66.

STATE of the RECEIPTS of the NORTHERN CIRCARS, from the Time of the Grant of them to the last Advices.

<i>March 1766 to April 1767.</i>					
Received of sundry Zemindars and Renters, &c.	—	—	Lft.	140,618	
<i>May 1767 to April 1768.</i>					
Received as above	—	—	—	128,556	
<i>May 1768 to April 1769.</i>					
Received as above	—	—	—	188,010	
<i>May 1769 to April 1770.</i>					
Received as above	—	—	—	320,512	
<i>May 1770 to April 1771.</i>					
Received as above	—	—	—	351,719	
<i>May 1771 to December 1771.</i>					
Received as above	—	—	—	106,040	
			Lft.	1,235,455	

*East India House,  
26 February 1773.*

Errors excepted.

*John Hoole, Auditor of Indian Accounts.*

N<sup>o</sup> 67.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
THE Address herewith sent to the Right honourable President and Council, from the Shortness of the Time since I have had the Opportunity of seeing the Papers of the Select Committee, and from the hurry of my Departure, I have not been able to finish till this Moment; it rests with your Lordship and Council to permit it to go Home by this Ship, that my Reply may appear with my Accusation, which I submit to your Justice.

And am, with Respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

OH. 1<sup>st</sup> 1765.

*John Johnstone.*

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,  
I received the Minutes of the Right honourable the President, and the other Three Members of the Committee, forwarded to me from the Secretary, under Date the 24<sup>th</sup> June.

The Reasons why I declined entering on any Defence before the Committee, as my Judges, I have already, in Part, mentioned in my Minute: I could not, in Justice to myself, submit to be tried and judged by the Committee, who acted so much as Parties and Prosecutors. The Methods used by them to get Evidence against me, appeared so great a Violation of that Liberty and Freedom, that as a *Briton* I had a Right to, that I could hope for no impartial Justice from those who set out in a Manner so totally subversive of the Laws and Liberty of the Subject. Could I hope, that those Gentlemen, who would confine, under Military Guards,

in the most rigorous and terrifying Manner, the Men they thought intrusted with my Secrets; and that under these undue Influences would oblige them to violate their Trust, Faith, and Gratitude, and to give Answers to ensnare themselves, or injure their Benefactors, would not esteem such Evidence, even so obtained, sufficient handle to pursue their Designs against me, and to adjudge me culpable: When I saw *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Jugget Seet*, Men who had a few Days before acknowledged the highest Obligations to me, and Dependence on my Friendship to save their Honour and Posts, and curry Favour, led to relate and swear, without being confronted, or even examined in our Hearing, to Matters known to be false to the rest of the Gentlemen as well as to me, I objected, and still object, and deny any Evidence so procured: Neither could I consider Narratives extorted by Hope of Favour, or Fear of Disgrace, as Complaints lodged against me by the Men themselves; for *Jugget Seet* most avowedly declares, at the Conclusion of this Narrative, That Enquiry being made of him by these Gentlemen (*Undil Ejlifari i Sabiban*) he has wrote the above, in which there is not a Word of Untruth. How well this Declaration agrees with the Professions of Satisfaction, and Offers of Service, the *Seets* had of their own Accord made in their Letter to me after my Return here, and when the expected Committee were arrived, I beg the unbiassed to judge, from perusing their Letter, of which a Copy is herewith sent; and whether, if *Jugget Seet* had not been made to perceive how agreeable such a Charge would be to the Gentlemen of the Committee, he would of himself make any, or thought he had any good Cause to complain of the Behaviour of the Deputation to him at the City. The Terror and Apprehension *Mahomed Reza Cawn* was in, from the Advantage he supposed would be taken by his Enemies to ruin him, when he was not permitted to come down with the Nabob, was known

to every Body. The Anxiety of his Mind was still further increased, when ordered down by a Letter from Lord Clive, under his Great Seal; this, and what he had been made to understand, that all the Business of Moment was taken from out of the Hands of the Council, made him decline either to receive or pay Visits to those Gentlemen, who but a few Days before he had avowed his greatest Friends. When Views of Interest and Time-serving can make Men so forgetful of all Gratitude and Honour; what Credit can, or ought to be paid to what they say? *Mahomed Reza Cawn* found himself obnoxious to the Nabob, and accused by him to the Committee; that the former Council, to whom he owed his Station, were no longer in Power to support him; that *Nandcomar*, whom he considered as his mortal Enemy, was released, untried, and admitted to the highest Confidence and Tenor with the Nabob; nay, as he sent me Word, that he had ventured even to sign again as Duan to the Nabob; that the Committee set themselves up as the Judge of the Council. In such a Situation, where he had every Thing to fear from their Displeasure, every Thing to expect from their Favour, What Man would admit himself to be judged by Narratives obtained under such Circumstances? as by lawful Evidence upon Oath, where the Witness swears, he is neither actuated by Hope or Fear? As Proofs of his terrible Apprehensions from the Schemes of his Enemies, and his Dependence on my Assistance, and the Sentiment he entertained of my former Obligations, and of the little Faith ought to be given to Representations obtained of the same Man, who can in so short a Space accommodate to the Times, I beg Leave to refer to Three Letters he wrote me after my Arrival in Calcutta, and to One from *Mootyram*, to which he refers. His referring back to Presents he had made Months before this of himself to Mr. *Spencer*, and inserting the Name of Mr. *Carter* to what that Gentleman was ignorant of, and in which, whatever had been done was done by himself after I came away, shews how much he studied to gain an Interest with the Committee, by relating those Particulars, though so strong Marks of his Servility and black Ingratitude, when such Increase of Honour and Power was heaped, without any additional Merit in this Man but what his Narratives could claim, and the whole Torrent of Persecution was let loose against the Receivers of the Nabob's Presents, instead of giving him any Redress against *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, the Man he complained against, as the Giver away of his Money, without his Knowledge or Consent. Whether these Proceedings have been carried on to the Length they are, for other Motives, or from the Desire of rendering Satisfaction to the Nabob, whose Inclinations or Interest appear to be so little attended to in the subsequent Regulations and Transactions of the Committee, the World, on a Knowledge of Facts, will judge. In my Minute I mentioned, in my objecting to the Evidence of *Mootyram*, when the President had desired he might be brought before the Board, and questioned to the Truth of what had been wrote down as his Answer on Oath, for the same Reasons as before mentioned; that while under the Pains and Terrors of an unjust Confinement, by an unlawful Power exerted towards him, no such Evidence can be esteemed free and voluntary; and because he must have that Apprehension of still harder Punishment, should he deviate any Thing from what had been put down as his Evidence in the Confusion he represents himself to have been in when first carried Prisoner and examined before them the 8th; nevertheless this Examination, the most unprecedented perhaps that has been heard of in any English Colony, enjoying His Majesty's most gracious Charters of Liberty, was gone through before an Assembly of His Majesty's Justices of Peace. That had been wrote down as the Questions and Answers of his Examination of the 8th, was read to the Prisoner, and he again sworn to make true Answer, though this was plainly putting the Answer into the

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Evidence's Mouth that he should give: And though his deviating in this respect in any Court, intirely invalidates his former Evidence, and made him liable to Perjury; yet even under this Dilemma did *Mootyram*, as I understand, differ in his Evidence, in what had been laid the greatest Stress on. First, he is made to deny the first Question: He had sworn point blank before, that he went to *Juggut Seet* to demand Money: By this he contradicts himself in his first Evidence, and contradicts *Juggut Seet*'s Narrative, which he is made to acknowledge as being every Word true: Afterwards, in the Examination, he says, He spoke nothing, but that *Ismael Aly Khan* spoke, and demanded Three Laaks of Rupees. *Juggut Seet*, in his Narrative, makes *Mootyram* come and demand Five Laaks, but takes no Notice of *Ismael Aly Khan*; and *Mootyram* in his Evidence is made to answer, that he demanded this Money of the *Seets*, and that he demanded it on Account of the Gentlemen, and those that sent him. It is plain, this Relation of the same Conversation no Way agrees: Let it be here remarked, that *Mootyram* never has ventured to assert, he was sent by me, or any of the Gentlemen, to ask Money of the *Seets*; yet he is made to reply, that he demanded the Money (*viz.* the Sum mentioned in *Juggut Seet*'s Narrative, Five Laaks) on Account of the Gentlemen, and those that sent him: *Ismael Aly Khan*, by *Mootyram*'s Answer in the Examination of the 8th, is made to demand Three Laaks; the first Visit in *Mootyram*'s Presence, and *Mootyram*, in *Juggut Seet*'s Narrative, is made to hint a Present in general, but nothing in particular the first Visit, yet under a Threat of Displeasure, and of no Assistance to his Business, if he did not comply: *Mootyram* nevertheless denies, that he said a Word, or carried any Message to *Juggut Seet* the first Visit. *Mootyram* here contradicts the Narrative of the *Seet*, which he is made in another Place to acknowledge as every Word true: And in the next Visit, instead of Three Laaks that was said to have been asked in his Presence by *Ismael Aly Khan*, he (*Mootyram*) is made to increase the Demand, and to ask for Five Laaks. How consistent or probable this Story is, I leave it to every Man to judge. The Second Question propoed to *Mootyram* is in these Words in the Examination the 8th; "What did you say to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* about stopping the Business of the *Seets*, unless they complied with the Demand?" In what Words this was put, and how far such a Question to a Prisoner answering on his own Defence, or to fix his Answer as Evidence against his absent Benefactor, I appeal to the whole World: But what must every Man feel within himself, when he compares the Answer set down in these Proceedings in these Words, "I did tell him (*Mahomed Reza Cawn*) that the Gentlemen would protect their Business if they would make a Present; if not, the Business of the *Seets* should meet with no Protection or Countenance," as being my Orders; when he understands that Terms of Expression made use of by *Mootyram*, as conveying the Threat, were merely Cooch-booligani: The plain Translation of which is, he will say nothing, or he will rest silent, or say not a Word; which is wrested to express a Meaning so entirely contrary to it, *viz.* that the *Seets* Business shall meet with no Countenance or Protection.—It is hard to imagine, that any Body, who has been for Years in this Country, could be so much unacquainted with the Languages, as not to know this common Expression; how it has been tortured to make me appear guilty of raising Threats to extort Money from the *Seets*, must evidently convince every Enquirer with what little Candour I have been used during the Course of these Examinations. Here the Committee themselves render Testimony of *Mootyram*'s falsifying in this Part of his Evidence: But allowing that he had really used Cooch Sei Kurregani and Cooch-booligani, the Expressions will never come up to the Sense given it, That the Business of the *Seets* shall meet with no Countenance or Protec-

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tion:

tion : Cooch Sci harrageni, joined with Couch-boolligani, signifies, He will not exert any Endeavours, and will say nothing ; also it may be understood, he will not stir in their Affairs, or say any Thing. It is impossible for me to say from my own Knowledge, as not being present, what other Errors, Omissions, Questions not understood by the Prisoner, or Answers mistaken in the Translation, have been made ; but I have good Grounds to believe that had the Answers and Questions been put down on Paper in the Language *Mootyram* understood, the Examination would have contained Meanings and Sentences very different from what now appear put down in *English*. As in his Evidence on the Third Question, giving Account of what passed between the *Seets* and *Ijmael Aly Khawm*, *Mootyram* contradicts what he had before said ; it must be allowed, that either what he said was not perfectly understood, or misconstrued, or that *Mootyram's* Evidence on Oath was falsified the Second Time, by his Evidence on Oath. After these Contradictions in *Mootyram's* Evidence, which I have pointed out in so many glaring Instances, that any Degree of Credit should be given to the rest, will scarce, I presume, be urged, before Judges unbiased and impartial. The Proceedings of the Committee, wherein I was any way mentioned, after my resigning the Service, were never communicated to me ; the Oath, binding all thole in the Select Committee Office to the strictest Secrecy, put it out of my Power to learn what had been transacted there against me ; and none of the Proceedings or Papers of the Committee were allowed to be perused by the Members of the Council, and only particular Parts read over to them, and the Papers again pocketted, and carried away. I have never been able to learn any Thing certain as to the Proceedings and Papers that so deeply concerned me to have been acquainted with, and which, in common Regard to Justice, one would think I was intitled to expect should have been communicated to me. It was not however till the 25th Instant, and thro' the Means of General *Carnac*, that I had the least Knowledge or Access to the Papers of the Committee that concerned me so particularly, just at the Eve of my Departure, and in the hurry of settling my Concerns, on quitting the Country in so short a Space ; the Disadvantage I am subjected to in replying to and refusing the many Things falsely laid to my Charge, and the unjust Conclusions thence drawn to my Prejudice, in the Acts of the Committee, must be evident to every one.

I have given Reasons for not allowing the Truth of any *Mahomed Reza Cawn* has advanced. It must appear evident, that the same Methods to which he owed his Confirmation and Safety before, by sacrificing his Honour and Gratitude to save himself from the Relentment of the Committee, still operating, in dictating the Reply to the Lord *Clive's* Letter. In his first Narrative, he says, Not that any Sum whatever was demanded either from the Nabob or himself by *Mootyram*, nor by the Gentlemen of the Deputation. In this last Representation he thinks it may be more satisfactory to aver this Falshood, That Mr. *Jobnstone* had at first demanded a very large Sum by *Mootyram*, and that his Representations to the Nabob were in Consequence of my Desire ; though he before represented, that the Message he carried was from the Deputation, and for no particular Sum ; and that the first Application he made was in Consequence of what had passed between him and all the Gentlemen together, which consisted only in their desiring him to intimate their Hope to the Nabob, without pressing any Sum ; and which, for fear of displeasing them, he consented to do. He then sets forth, That the Nabob desired him to make out a List, and that he referred it entirely to the Nabob's own Pleasure to determine it ; according to which, it was made out before his Face ; however, now he thinks it will serve his Purpose better to allege, that the Sum and the Distribution was settled by the Nabob, not by his own Pleasure, but

according to my dictating. The Nabob then must have done so, either of his own Pleasure, or out of Awe or Fear of me ; and if the latter, it is most evident he could not have desired a better Opportunity of gratifying his Relentment, than by complaining of me to the other Gentlemen, if what he had entered for them had been by me perverted to my private Use. Now it is very true, that the Nabob did, through *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, make an Offer of a Laak to me, besides what I received in common with the rest ; and it is most certain that I declined accepting this separate Teep, and never did receive it from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, but on the contrary, ordered it to be returned to the Nabob, with my Thanks for his distinguishing Offer ; and I call upon Messrs. *Senior* and *Middleton* to declare, whether, in Consequence of my having refused the accepting of this Teep, they were not Witnesses to the Nabob's introducing the Subject himself in the Durbar, and pressing me, in the most urgent Manner, to receive it as a Mark of his Favour ; and whether it was not with their Knowledge and Approbation, that, after repeated Instances from the Nabob himself, made before them and several others then in the Durbar, I consented to take it ; whether the Money had been then paid, or whether this Sum was not paid to me at the same Time with that paid to the rest a long While afterwards, and with their Knowledge ; and whether the said Nabob, *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, at that Time ever gave any Reason to think this was contrived by me, or not proceeding merely from the Nabob's own Determination. The Present the Nabob made to my Brother, he himself, in his own Durbar, bestowed upon him, the Day he went to take his Leave to join the Army, and referred him to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* for Payment of it ; and for the Payment of which the Nabob gave the repeated Sanction of his Will and Authority, in signing the Furd Sual many Days after, when presented to him by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*, who took these Precautions before he would issue any Money. I never mentioned to the Nabob One single Word, regarding a Present for my Brother ; if I had, or that this was disagreeable to him, it lay in his own Will whether to have given it, and in his Power to have withheld the Payment of the Teep afterwards, and to have taken Notice of it to the rest of the Gentlemen. Had any undue Influence, or contrary to his own Inclination at that Time, had not he a fair Opportunity of representing this to the other Gentlemen with whom I was joined in Commission, and with whose Knowledge and Consent he saw that all Affairs were conducted ? He had complained but a few Days before against me in particular to the Governor, in regard to the examining the Cutcherry Papers, though the Deputies had first obtained his Consent, and Order for the Book-keepers to attend with the Books, in order to regulate the Partition of the Charge of the Collections agreeable to the Treaty : The Nabob, indeed, when afterwards convinced that he had been imposed upon by People who had their own Views to serve in the Complaint, publicly apologized for it, and signified his being perfectly satisfied on this Point, in a Letter he wrote to the Governor ; both which appear in the Book of Country Correspondence. As the explaining the Orders of the Board, and the Sentiments of the Deputation, fell upon me, being more versed in the Country Language than the other Gentlemen ; this exposed me, more than any of the rest, to the Nabob's Displeasure ; and though throughout the Whole of the Negotiations there was no Difference in our Opinions, yet the whole Relentment of whatever was said or done, not agreeable to the Nabob, has been directed against me in particular. This it is necessary to observe, in order to shew, that had his Highness had such Cause of Complaint against me, as is now endeavoured to be made believed, he wanted not Instigators enough about him to have taken the Occasion of laying such a Charge against me, either to the Gentlemen of the Deputation, or to the Board below.

below. As to *Mahomed Reza Cawn's* own Presents, which he would now pretend were solicited from him, I flatly deny it; and assert, Intimation was first given to us by *Mootyram* of his being desirous of making us a Present; and that such were his Intentions is known to others; that himself verbally mentioned the Sums for each; and that no Note was, to my Knowledge, ever offered by him Rupees 4,75,000. That I appropriated a Rupee, of what *Mahomed Reza Cawn* designed, or intended, or proposed to me, or with my Knowledge, for the other Gentlemen, as the Committee have alleged, I declare is false: I never had a Note from him in my Possession, nor remember ever to have seen one in his Hands, or in those of *Mootyram*; and that the agreeing to accept at the last of his Present, long before tendered, of a Laack each, was with the joint Concurrence of Messieurs *Middleton* and *Senior*, *Mahomed Reza Cawn* being then present; and in Consequence of which, the Bills were forwarded from *Muxadabad*, and the Payments in ready Money promised at the City for Messieurs *Senior* and *Middleton*, tho' Mr. *Middleton*, Mr. *Leycester*, and myself, did afterwards, for the Reasons we have before assigned, decline accepting of this, when we had it in our Power, that we might be under no Restraint, from such Consideration, in supporting our Opinions; that *Juggut Seet* wanted to make his Present to me alone, both Messieurs *Senior* and *Middleton*, to whom the Circumstances were then mentioned, may remember, and that I refused accepting any but in common and equal with the other Gentlemen; that so great Endeavours have been used, by imprisoning some, over-awing and terrifying others, and by Hopes and Rewards bestowed upon others, in order to search out and collect whatever concerned me, while no Notice or Scrutiny, that appears, has been made into the Presents received by many others, lately and heretofore, tho' not less talked of, nor less considerable; whether it proceeds from those Motives of Honour, and firm Attachment, to the Interest of their Employers, or to gratify particular Ends and Relinquishments, we leave to the impartial to judge.

How ready the Black Fellows are to curry Favour, by joining in what they suppose must be agreeable to the Will of the Committee, the stopping my joint Trade for Weeks in *Burdwan*, and in *Suja Moeta*, where our Property has been Twice arrested, and is still unreleased, to our great Loss; and their refusing to pay me my just Debts in other Places, since my resigning the Service, nuff evince. The Merchants, even at *Calcutta*, after having bargained for Goods at the Market Price, when they have learnt they were mine, have flown off their Agreement.

I shall now make some Remarks on the Proceedings of the Committee of the 21st, with the other Papers of the 26th Instant.

It is very true, I have, and ever shall, refuse to reply to the Committee as my Judges, as I esteem the Powers they have taken to themselves as usurped and unlawful, and contrary to the Sense of their Appointment; to themselves I object, as having acted as Parties, and trampled on every Liberty and Right, that as a *Briston* I had a Right to expect in my Trial. Yet, though I reject replying at their Tribunal, whose Laws and Bounds seem only what their Will and Caprice dictate, I do not decline to justify my Character, where I can expect a fair and impartial Hearing. In order to shew how candid are the Opinions of those who would be my Judges; let it be remarked that they assert, I have actually received the several Sums in Money and Bills, specified in the general Accounts of *Mahomed Reza Cawn* and *Juggut Seet*; and immediately after, that Mr. *Leycester* neither did nor intended to receive the Bills lodged with *Mootyram*; now they must have known that the Bills never were in my Hands, or received by me more than by Mr. *Leycester*; and the Resolution of never receiving their Amount, and the Orders for giving them

back, were taken by me jointly with that Gentleman; for which I appeal to his Honour; and that it was no more known to me than to him, that they had not been delivered back, as *Mootyram* had repeatedly assured me they were; but no Question, that could serve to clear me in this, or any other Point, was ever put to the Prisoner or others. As to the Menaces that the Committee would endeavour to make such a Handle of, I do again deny ever all such, and my having authorized any such Messages by *Mootyram*, to *Mahomed Reza Cawn* or *Juggut Seet*; yet this Menace, when fairly rendered in English, amounts at the utmost to I will say nothing (*Cocob Booliganie*.) In order to lay greater Load on me, by a Comparison with others, the Committee gave it as their Opinion, that Mr. *Middleton* always intended to refuse the Present intended him by *Mahomed Reza Cawn*; this Mr. *Middleton* is a Man of too much Regard to Truth to pretend to, and only says, That he avoided receiving any Part of this, and afterward determined refusing it, and which was much about the Time Mr. *Leycester* and I took the same Resolution. As to the Reflection of our being guilty of Disobedience to the Company's positive Orders, relative to the Covenants, both in delaying the Execution of them, and in receiving Presents; I reply, That I was called down to Council in February, without desiring it, an occasional Member; that it afterwards depended on the Determination of others, whether I should be of the Deputation or not; and that the Covenants were never tendered to me; that Messieurs *Sumner* and *Sykes* have not scrupled to declare publicly, That they would not have come out, had they previously known these Covenants were to have been executed; which if they chose to make Use of as an Argument, would acquit us at least from the Censure they vouchsafe now to pass upon us. Covenants are free for Men to bind themselves by or not, and till the Party concerned agrees to enter into them of Choice, are no more obligatory on him from their Arrival in *Bengal*, than from the Day they were drawn up in *England*, and can retrospect to the one Period as little as to the other: I never refused to execute them, nor opposed it being proposed in Council. When he propounded the Question, Whether the receiving of Presents were improper? Mr. *Sykes* by his Answer condemns, as well as us, the noble Lord, and all those benefitted then and since by them; the Minutes of the other Members of the Committee, are not direct Answers to this plain general Question, Whether the Acceptance of all Presents be improper? a Question that those who had ever benefitted in that Way chose rather to leave unanswered. However, we differ here in Opinion from the Committee, of having thereby done any thing to the Injury of our Employers, or covenanted for any Services dishonourable to ourselves, or hurtful to their Affairs, we must submit to the common Sense of Mankind our Proceedings in this, and the Decency, Candour, Moderation, &c. in this and other Points transacted by them, since they undertook their restoring of Peace, Order, and Tranquillity. The Presents received from the Nabob we still consider as received with as great Propriety as any others received since the Custom was introduced, and setting up *Meer Jaffer*; and we imagine there will few be brought to believe, that the large Sums received at that Time, by the Commander in Chief and his Friends, while the public Engagements were left undischarged, were received in that Spirit of Disinterestedness, and Concern against the sudden Growth of Wealth, that is now preached up. The Merit in receiving solely from the Nabob *Jaffer Ali Khan*, the easy Fortune then acquired, after the Representations made at that very Time of the State of the Treasury, I shall not endeavour to detract from; but it will be something difficult to make People believe, that the Sums given by this Nabob to the Gentlemen in the Month of April, with 26 Lacks said to be lying in his House at *Calcutta*, besides the daily Receipts after the

the Pania, so impoverished his Treasury and hurt the Collections, that such great Balances are accumulated since that Time, of the Money due for the Army Restitution or Donation; and that, to supply the Cash under these Difficulties, the honourable Board should be obliged to recur to the Assistance of the *Seets* for a Loan of Rs. 150,000 at Interest in the Month of *August*; whether the Government is better administered on the new System than before, Facts must vouch. It no Doubt rests with Lord *Clive* to explain his Sentiments regarding the Establishment of the Committee, so soon after its being abolished at Home; more particularly as his Sentiments were thought to coincide in the Salutaryness of that Resolution, and have been commented on in the Remonstrance preferred to the Court of Directors by certain Proprietors. How conformable to the Intent of those Powers has been the Exertion and Continuance of them, we shall leave every Man to judge, without acknowledging that the Fate or Safety of *Bengal*, in the least, depended thereon. That Lord *Clive* seconded the Motion, when it was last made, for my Reinstatement, I will readily allow; if his Lordship thinks, that by this Concurrence he conferred an Obligation, to which in Honour and Gratitude he was not bound to my Friends, the more my Acknowledgements are due. However, I have some Reason to believe this might have been brought about, though Lord *Clive* had never moved in the Matter; and that, had it depended solely on his Lordship's Endeavours, it would never have been effected. In Reply to his Lordship's last Paragraph in his Minutes, I do maintain, that I continued in the Office of *Persian* Translator, and was employed in writing and translating the public Letters, to the Day the Expedition embarked against the Nabob: That from the Time Mr. *Sraffon* commenced the Correspondence in Cypher, and wrote to Mr. *Walsh*, that he might have again the Post I held, and that Politics and Power were his Game, I never was entrusted in any of the secret Negotiations then carrying on; that during that Period, and long before the Time, when I was ordered to return and do my Duty in the Artillery, Mr. *Lushington*, my Assistant, was sworn in, as he told me, and was employed in the Affairs then transacting. Whether Mr. *Sraffon* settled the Affairs of the Money, or Mr. *Watts*, with *Meer Jaffer Ali Cawn*, is what I shall not argue about. That he was acquainted with all these Negotiations and Articles, is what I suppose will not be denied by any who reads his Letter, dated 31st *May*, and that from Mr. *Watts*: Whether the Presents for the Committee was settled at that Time, and before the Army marched, I appealed in my former Minute to the Gentlemen of the Committee themselves to declare. Such was the common Opinion then prevalent; and as the Truth will be best known to those who were concerned and bound to Secrecy, to them I appealed. I believe, however, it will appear, from the Consultations of the Select Committee, that the 30th Laaks, stipulated for *Omichbund*, was agreed to be left out in that Treaty, by which *Jaffer Ali Cawn* was to be told it was intended we should abide.—How this Sum was afterwards received from the Nabob, whether by Virtue of his first Stipulation in Behalf of *Omichbund*, or of a subsequent Agreement, I shall leave it for those better acquainted to set forth; the Committee having taken no Notice of it, that I can discover, in the Proceedings: And though they gave repeated Cautions against making any new Demands on the Nabob, besides those agreed to by his Treaty; that this Sum was received, and 23 Laaks divided among the Committee and others, is what I have heard; how this was divided, and whether any more was received or divided, it rests with those concerned to say.

His Lordship is pleased to aver, that the Occasion of his ordering me to return to my Station in the Artillery, was a Letter he received from Governor *Drake*,

affirming he had seen a Letter from me to Mrs. *Warwick*, disclosing to her many of the Transactions of my Office, at a very critical Juncture. Now I do aver, that I had been excluded from any Share in the Negotiations, wherein Secrecy was required, long before I was ordered to my Station in the Artillery; and I should be extremely glad, that Governor *Drake's* Letter was produced, that it might appear where I had divulged any Secrets entrusted to me in my Office. In regard to this Letter of Governor *Drake's*, I think it was shewn to me by Colonel *Clive*, in the Garden House of *Mydepoor*, when I no longer belonged to the Office: I wrote such an Answer, as to unjust an Accusation of Governor *Drake's* merited, which he may, if he chooses, produce; the Transaction I had disclosed, was, to the best of my Recollection, no other than the public News in the Camp, while the Army lay in Succession, and meditated staying the Rains at *Onawa*, and for which it behoved me to make Provision, as not having been informed by Colonel *Clive* that I was to attend the Artillery, till the very Morning I embarked: I took the Field entirely unprovided of every Thing necessary in such Situation. If I appeared so little worthy of Confidence on this Account, it will seem odd that I should be requested, through Major *Kilpatrick*, to go up with the Detachment sent in Pursuit of Mr. *Lau*, in the same Character which I declined, and was ordered up in my proper Station as the Artillery Officer; still more so, that it should be recommended by the Board for his Lordship to treat with me a few Months after to go as Resident to *Cuttack*, for secret Negotiations; and further, that the same indiscreet Person should be approved by his Lordship to be dispatched, intrusted with the conducting the Negotiations in the Duan, till the Army should arrive, the Success of which might be of so great Consequence to the Expedition. The Shortness of my Time here allows me not an Opportunity of replying at large to the Representations Mr. *Versell* has made in his Memorial; as many injurious, unjust, and ungentle Reflections are there dispersed; I shall remark upon a few of them, referring to myself to reply more at large hereafter. The Method Mr. *Versell* has taken to diminish the Balance, due from the Rajah, if there be any Merit in it, he may boast himself of it; Rupees 41,000, advanced out of the Cash for Coolbundy, he transfers to the Company's Credit, as a Remittance; and which, whether it be a Loan from the Company, or a Balance due to them, is much the same; saving that the Company, instead of the Rajah, will receive the Interest on the *Dudney*, as in 1763. This Method to increase the Remittances in Appearance, we did not take the Advantage of in my Time; the Sum, Rs. 162:32, paid in from the 30th *June* to the 6th *July*, has, I believe, been most Part borrowed by the Rajah at Interest; and very little of it arises from the Collection of the Province. If the Rajah meant to reflect on my Management, as the Cause of the Losses and Deficiencies, I shall produce a thousand Testimonies of his own, as well as the repeated Approbation of the Board, to refute this Information; and appeal to the Collections and Remittances during my Time, to shew how far it falls upon me. The Balance of 1654134, for 1769 and 1770, will be found to be a mistaken, and not a just, Statement. It is not incumbent upon me to enter into Debate with Mr. *Versell*, as to the Wisdom of the Board who adopted the Method of putting the Lands up to Outcry before my Time, and continued it since. As to the People who were admitted to purchase in 1769, none that were excepted to by the Rajah's Officers, who were supposed to know them, were admitted; and as the same mentioned the Charge of taking Security from them, it must rest with them, not me, to vouch for their Characters and their Circumstances. As to the settling the Lands last Year, as it was done after I was dismissed the Service, it rests not with me to answer

answer for it; if better could have been done, I presume it would not have been omitted. It is a Pleasure to me to observe, that the Farm of *Johnstone, Hay, and Bolts*, has had a great Advance bid on it, at this Outcry. It is a Proof the Ryotts there have been protected and not vexed; indeed several Bigas have been improved by new Ryotts that have settled there. Those who have taken these Farms, will, if allowed for only Half the Lofs by Overflowing this Season, as we have been this last, will no Doubt not be undecieved as to their Expectations; we are ready to satisfy any Gentleman with a Sight of our Accounts, and leave them to declare, whether we have gained. The Representations made, regarding the Baze Zemun, seems dictated by the same Spirit of finding Fault, and to raise an Opinion of Mr. *Vereff's* own superior Discernment and Ability; justly or unjustly, that seems out of the Question. The levying Nine Annas is charged on Mr. *Johnstone*, though the Sentiment of the Council at *Burdwan*, and the Order of the Board at *Calcutta*, to whom it was referred; the Consultation of the 4th of *February*, and the Orders repeatedly issued, touching the Baze Zemun, and Statements from Time to Time to the Board, and the public Registers kept for all the Sunnuds brought in, &c. and those confirmed; will evince how fair a Representation has been here given in Regard to this Article. It is further alleged, that it was agreed to receive Two Lacks less than the Rajah had before settled, for the Board have assigned Reasons for agreeing to accept only 32 Lacks in Consultation 11 *February*. But I should be glad to know when, and with whom, such Settlement of 31 Laaks was made; for I am unacquainted with any, but that for the Year 1769, which was executed for 34 Laaks at that Time. In regard to what is said about the Muttafuddies, and their keeping us in Ignorance, I think I can know the Source from whence Mr. *Vereff* has imbibed his Ideas in this, as well as in many other Matters, on which he was determined so positively on the Insight of a little more than a Month's Residence. If the Muttafuddies be so little to be depended on, one would think the leaving every Thing at their Discretion, as must now be the Case, by the recalling the Factory, both in respect to the Collections and Administration of Justice, must be from his having found Men of a better Cast than has yet appeared in these Districts; who are meant by the Muttafuddies, I wish to see pointed out, for in my Ears it is a cant Word without any Idea. I will venture to say, I never followed their Advice, but so far as it appeared on the Whole the best, nor would acknowledge their Superiority so much, as to offer, as an Excuse for any salutary Regulations not taking Place, that they opposed it. The *Karkoon, Gool Mozimdar, and Ramdave Nogue*, did use all their Endeavours when I went first up, against making any Outcry, and delivered in Statements of the Revenues of the Province; by which they computed there would be a Laak deficient of the Revenues collected the Year before by Mr. *Grabam*. In regard to the Remarks Mr. *Vereff* has made, touching the Rajah's not being acquainted with the Transactions and Affairs of his Country, and without the Respect due to his Office, I cannot help admiring at it. The Respect due to Rajah, among his own People, I aver has been ever properly kept up, and to his Satisfaction, as I can testify by numberless Letters from him, and by Facts indisputable: He was consulted in every Point of Consequence, conformable to the First Instructions and subsequent Orders I received from the Board. The Alterations that took Place on the Appointment of a Chief and Council, were planned and prescribed by the same Authority, and which we did not think it our Right and Business to discuss or dispute; however, I will venture to contradict Mr. *Vereff*; and to affirm, that he has never been kept in Ignorance of any of his Affairs; for the public Books, and Officers of his

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Outchuries have ever been at his Call to examine at Will, and the Monthly Cash Accomps free to his Inspection; the State of the Treasury and Collections being laid before him on the signing of every Invoice. What Influence Mr. *Vereff* means, other than that of a Chief, I really am at a Loss to conceive, unless he means the Rajah should be only under the Influence of a Writer or Factor, and a Member of the Committee residing in *Calcutta*. As Mr. *Vereff* has not scrupled here to misrepresent Things, the Truth of which is known to many Members then of the Board, still in the Service, who were at the Time present in *Calcutta*; and particularly General *Carnac*, who was at that Time here, and acquainted with every Circumstance that passed, I appeal to him, Mr. *Cartier*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Marriott*, and Mr. *Grabam*, then Secretary to the Board, how conformable to Truth is the Information of that Gentleman; and to Mr. *Vansittart*, then President; and to Mr. *Baifon*, who at that Time composed the Board. As Mr. *Grabam*, in particular, was then deputed from the Board with a Message to the Rajah, to inform him, That if he had any Grievances to represent, that he should lay them before the Board through the Channel of the Chief; I beg that Gentleman, and General *Carnac*, may be desired to declare what they know of this Matter; and I appeal to Mr. *Vansittart*, to whom the Rajah addressed himself, whether, before I returned, I did not wait upon him at the Gardens, and require of him to demand of the Rajah, then present, to set forth, Face to Face, any Cause or Complaint he then had against me. The President replied, That had he had any, he would, without Doubt, have committed it to Paper, and laid it before the Board. That the Rajah's Servants were seized coming into *Calcutta*, is more than ever I heard; and if it were true, as I am persuaded it is not, the greater Opening did it afford the Rajah to have set forth his Complaints, when encouraged thereto by the Message from the Board; the Rajah wanted not Opportunity, when my Influence was at End by my Dismission last Year, had he Cause but to be satisfied with my Behaviour to him in every Respect; but of his Thankfulness and Dependence on me, as his Benefactor, I have so many Proofs to shew, that I am persuaded nothing of this Kind ever fairly could proceed from himself. The Merit of the Rajah's ready Compliance to whatever Mr. *Vereff* asks of him, is, no Doubt, very great. Has he, or any Black Man in the Country, now either Resolution or Power left to dispute any Thing said or done under such Authority? For to whom can he appeal? After the repeated Examples given them, what have they now to expect but Guards and Imprisonment, to work them to Compliance to every Thing desired by the Committee? The Lateness of my receiving the Papers has prevented me from laying this Representation before the Board; I hope it will nevertheless be thought but just it should be allowed to go Home by this Packet, that my Reply, so far as yet prepared, may be heard by the honourable Court, at the same Time they read the Proceedings sent Home against me.

I am, with Respect,  
My Lord and Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient Servant,

October 1st 1765. John Johnstone.

Fort William, the 7th October 1765.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Seets to Mr. *Johnstone*, after his Return to *Calcutta*, May 1765.

At this happy Time the welcome News of your safe Arrival in *Calcutta*, which I was impatiently expecting, gave me the greatest Joy, and all Manner of Comfort. May the Almighty prosper to all your Well-wishers the Joy of your Arrival; and may he always keep you

under his Shadow, and preserve you, the Accomplisher of the Wishes of your Dependants. I regard you as my true Benefactor and Master, and always hope for Prosperity through your Favour. I request that you will look upon me as one united to the Company, and ever regard me with an Eye of Friendship till I have the Happiness to see you; which, if God willing, I shall speedily obtain. Constantly remember me with your friendly Letters and Commands.

A true Translation.

*George Van Sittart,  
Persian Translator.*

Translation of a Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to Mr. *Johnstone*, in *Calcutta*, May 1765.

*Mizra Mahomed Cauzim*, who is a Man of Understanding, and a Relation, and a faithful Friend of mine, I have sent along with his Excellency; he will have the Happiness of waiting on you. I hope from your Friendship, that whatever he represents to you, concerning my Affairs, you will consider, and heartily favour me in.

A true Translation.

*George Van Sittart,  
Persian Translator.*

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to Mr. *Johnstone*, after his Arrival in *Calcutta*, May 1765.

I have already had the Honour of writing to you; you must have received my Letter. On the 17th of *Zecada*, his Excellency set out for *Calcutta*. The State of Affairs here I have before written you. I hope from your Friendship, that you will interest yourself in my Behalf. I have been raised by you and the Gentlemen of Council, and have no other Protector.

A true Translation.

*George Van Sittart,  
Persian Translator.*

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from *Rajah Moetaram*, accompanying that from *Mahomed Reza Cawn*.

From the Time of my taking my Leave of you, upon your Departure for *Calcutta*, I have attended the Nabob *Maun ul Dowla Bebadre*, agreeably to your Commands; accordingly I have been favoured with a *Sunnud* for *Hoogly*, and Orders have been issued, for the Confirmation of the Title of Raja, which was bestowed upon me by *Ajuf Jan Nizam ul Dowla Bebadre*; and a new Seat has been granted to me; my *Nayb* is arrived at *Hoogly*, and is put in Possession of the Business; but I have not yet received a *Kellaat*, and taken my Leave. The Nabob told me, I will get his Excellency to honour you with a *Kellaat*, and give you your Dismissal To-day or To-morrow; in the Interim, we received News of the Arrival of the Nabob *Sabut Jung Bahadur*, in *Calcutta*; his Excellency immediately determined to go to *Calcutta*. Mr. *Middleton* advised him against it, in the strongest Manner, and told him it was not proper he should go without the Gentlemen of Council's Pleasure; but he would not listen to him: He has fixed his Departure on *Tuesday*—The Nabob *Maun ul Dowla* wanted to accompany his Excellency, but his Excellency has declined taking him, under Pretence, that if he was to go, the Business of the *Nizamut* would be interrupted; I also, as I have not yet received my *Kellaat*, nor taken my Leave, attend upon the Nabob; who calling me to him, said to me, "I am writing to *Isiacr ul Dowla*, do you also send an *Azree* to him, and represent to them, that without any de-

termining it, the Gentlemen favoured me, and honoured me with the Post of *Naib*." Now I remain here, and his Excellency is going to *Calcutta*, and all my Enemies are with him. I have no Protector but *Affiacr ul Dowla*; my Honour depends upon him as he is in *Calcutta*; it is a Matter of Indifference, whether I go or not; let him then me such Favour that my Enemies may not find Occasion against me; it is he that has honoured me with the Appointment to this Office, let him be kind enough to support me in it; if I should be now disgraced, I will put an End to my Life; if Permission is granted me, I will come for a Couple of Days to *Calcutta*, and be introduced by the Gentlemen to *Sabut Jung Bahadur*, and then return with all Speed to *Moorsabad*, and employ myself with Diligence in carrying on the Business to which the Gentlemen of Council have been kind enough to appoint me. The Nabob has written you a Letter, and waits your Answer—whatsoever you may be pleased to order, he will act accordingly.—He wants to send me to you, be pleased to acquaint me with your Pleasure on this Subject.—Mr. *Middleton* also will set out from hence on *Wednesday*, and so will Mr. *Senior*, in Two or Three Days; the Friends of *Nunclamar* rejoice at *Sabut Jung's* Arrival, and say, that the *Mharaja* will obtain a *Kellaat*, and return to *Moorsabad* in Four or Five Days; his Excellency's Inclination also is not unknown to you. I am at your Command, and will act agreeably to whatsoever you may be pleased to order.

A true Translation.

*George Van Sittart,  
Persian Translator.*

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from *Mahomed Reza Cawn* to Mr. *Johnstone* in *Calcutta*, received May 1765.

His Excellency, upon hearing of the Arrival of the Nabob *Sabut Jung Bahadur*, has determined to go to *Calcutta*. The 15th of *Zecada*, at Night, Mr. *Middleton* came to the Kella, and represented to his Excellency in the strongest Terms, that he should not go to *Calcutta* without the Approbation of the Gentlemen of Council; but it was all to no Purpose; his Excellency himself goes there, and I remain here: All the World knows that the Gentlemen of Council appointed me to this Business entirely of their own Favour, without my desiring.—The Preservation of my Honour depends upon the Gentlemen; on this Subject I have written a Letter to Mr. *Spencer*. I hope, that from your matchless Friendship, that you will shew me your Favour in whatsoever may be advisable.

P. S. Whereas his Excellency is going to *Calcutta*, all my Enemies are with him, and they will, doubtless, not be dilatory in doing me all the Prejudice they can; I have no Protector but you. Although when absent you shew me your Favour, yet, as I am impatient to see you, and it is very necessary I should wait upon the Nabob, *Sabut Jung Bahadur*, it is my Desire to leave a trust-worthy Man, who is acquainted with Business, to carry on the Affairs here; and repair myself immediately to *Calcutta*, to have the Happiness of waiting on the Nabob, *Sabut Jung Bahadur*, and then I will return hither; I expect your Orders on this Subject, and wait your Answer with Impatience.

P. S. Other Matters you will be informed of by the Letter of *Rajah Moetaram*.

A true Translation.

*George Van Sittart,  
Persian Translator.*



F I F T H  
R E P O R T

F R O M T H E  
C O M M I T T E E

A P P O I N T E D T O E N Q U I R E I N T O  
T H E N A T U R E, S T A T E, A N D C O N D I T I O N,  
O F T H E  
*E A S T I N D I A* C O M P A N Y,  
A N D O F T H E  
*B R I T I S H* A F F A I R S I N T H E *E A S T I N D I E S*.

Reported on the Eighteenth of *June* 1773.

Together with an APPENDIX, referred to in the said Report.



F I F T H

# R E P O R T

FROM THE

## C O M M I T T E E

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

### THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION,

OF THE

### E A S T I N D I A C O M P A N Y,

AND OF THE

### BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

*The 18th of June 1773.*

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition, of the *East India Company*, and of the *British Affairs* in the *East Indies*,

**H**AVING stated, in a Schedule in a former Report, a Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees received by Lord Clive, from the Begum or Mother of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, in the Year 1766; and having engaged, in the same Report, to complete and lay before the House their Enquiries concerning that Transaction; they proceeded accordingly; and, considering the Nature of the Subject, they think the best Means to enable the House to judge accurately thereupon, will be to lay before them the Whole of the Evidence, as it stands upon their Proceedings.

The First Evidence Your Committee have to lay before the House on this Head, is that of *Francis Sykes*, Esquire, and General *Carnac*, whose Examinations were taken on a former Occasion; and are as follow:

*Francis Sykes*, Esquire,

Was you present with Lord Clive and General *Carnac*, the 8th of *April* 1766, at any Visit paid to the Mother of *Nudjum ul Dowlah*?

I was there upon a Visit with Lord Clive; cannot recollect whether General *Carnac* was there or not—there was a Third Person.

What passed there?

After the usual Compliments, the Mother presented to his Lordship a Teep for the Sum of, I think, Five Lacks of Rupees, declaring at the same Time, that she had reserved it for his Lordship's own Use, by the particular Request of *Mjr Jaffer* before his Decease, and that the Nabob had intended to have presented it himself, in Case he had survived till his Lordship's Arrival.

Vot. III.

Did you speak the Language sufficient to understand all that was said?

I did; and was the Person myself that interpreted; there was another Person present, who understood *English* as well as *Pershan*; his Name was *Nobettiffen*.

Are you perfect in the Language of the Country?

I do not understand the Language of the Country perfectly.

When you transacted Business of your own, did you generally use an Interpreter, or did you interpret for yourself?

In all Transactions with the Nabob and the Government's Officers, either with respect to the Company or myself, I never made Use of any Interpreter.

When was the First Information you had of the Legacy?

I heard it mentioned, but by whom I cannot tell, upon our Arrival in the River; it was merely Rumour.

Do you recollect any Person who told you so?

I do not.

When was the first Time you ever heard of the Legacy from a Man of Credit?

I do not recollect to have had any Conversation with any Person about it.

Did you understand, before you had waited on the Mother, that you was to receive this Money?

I did not know the Nature of the Business on which we waited upon the Mother, but waited on her as a mere Matter of Compliment.

Did Lord Clive refuse it at first, when the Mother offered it?

He did not.—At the Visit to the Begum, when I mentioned Lord Clive's accepting the Teep from her, or his Lordship's receiving it, he mentioned to me, or soon afterwards,

afterwards, his Intention to appropriate it to the Institution of a Military Fund for Relief of distressed Officers and Soldiers in the *East India Company's Service*, which he afterwards fulfilled.

Your Committee then called General *Carnac*; whose Examination was as follows:

Was you present at the Visit with Lord *Clive* and Mr. *Sykes*, to the Begum, in April 1766?

I am pretty certain I was not; I do not recollect that I was ever with her.

Was you with Lord *Clive*, at the City, at that Time?

I went up with him.

When did you first hear of the Legacy which was left to Lord *Clive* by Mr. *Jaffer*?

I was a great Way up the Country, and it was probably a considerable Time after.

Do you remember any Man of Credit in the Country, who ever mentioned this Legacy to you?

I do not particularly remember any Persons, but imagine many must have mentioned it to me.

Your Committee then read the following Papers, Copies of which are herunto annexed, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

A Letter from Lord *Clive* to Mr. *Sumner* and Council, 8th April 1766.

Minute on Consultations, 14 April 1766, with the Opinion of the Board, and Letter in Answer to Lord *Clive*.

Paragraph 108 and 109 of Letter from the President and Council of *Fort William*, 28th November 1766. General Consultations, 11 December 1766.

Do — 28 January 1767.

Letter from *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to Lord *Clive*, received 9 June 1765.

Then Governor *Johnstone* produced to your Committee, a Letter, flated to be an original Letter from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to *Nundcomar*: Two Translations of which are herunto annexed, the One liberal, N<sup>o</sup> 12, the other literal, N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Then Your Committee examined *Gonshamdas*, who was formerly Moonhee, or *Persian* Translator, to Colonel *Grattan*; and his Examination was as follows:

Have you ever seen the Seal of the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab*?

I can't say.

Do you know the Hand-writing of *Nundcomar*?

I think I do, and that the Letter is indorbed by *Nundcomar* in the *Persian* Language, importing, "The Answer is written."

There are also certain *Persian* Words, importing, "Received the 3d of the Month of the *Zecar*, in the 7th Year," which I suppose to have been written by the Moonhee of *Nundcomar*. — There was 6 or 7 Days between the Date of the Letter and the Receipt. — My Reason for saying 6 or 7 is, because there is a Difference in the Number of Days in Months, according to their Computation. — The Letter is marked with a Seal, containing the Name of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*.

What is the Signature or Mark at the Bottom of the Letter?

There is a Mark signifying, "Stop here," which is the usual Way of finishing a Letter among the Great People of that Country; — that Word is not written in the same Hand as the Letter. — The Words, "Stop here," are always wrote by the Principal; — the Body of the Letter by his Moonhee.

Have you any Reason to believe that that Mark was written by the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab*?

Only this: The usual Custom of the Country is, that when the Letter is written by the Secretary, the principal Person puts this Mark; and if this Letter is from

*Nudjum ul Dowlab* I suppose that Mark might be written by him.

Your Committee then called Captain *Swinton*; whose Examination was as follows:

Are you acquainted with the Hand-writing of *Nundcomar*?

I have often seen the Hand-writing of *Nundcomar*, but cannot from Memory take upon me to say what is and what is not his Hand-writing. — On comparing his Writing with any other, I believe I could form a Judgment.

When you was Secretary to General *Carnac*, had you any Correspondence with *Nudjum ul Dowlab*?

I have. — I have received Letters from him.

Is the Seal upon the Cover now presented to you similar to those Seals from the Nabob which you received in the Course of that Correspondence?

*Nudjum ul Dowlab's* Name is upon this Seal. — I cannot positively say, without having another to compare, whether it is exactly similar.

Do you believe it to be the Seal of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*?

I cannot decide upon that. — I cannot form an Opinion, without comparing it with others of his Seals, of which I have several. — At the same Time I must observe, that there is nothing more easy than to counterfeit those Seals, and that it is frequently practised in that Country to put false Letters under the Covers of other People.

Are you acquainted with the Hand-writing of *Nudjum's* Moonhee?

I am not.

Had the Letters you received from *Nudjum ul Dowlab* a Mark at the Conclusion, similar to that upon the Letter now presented to you?

I rather think not. — I have sometimes received Letters from Great Persons with a Signature at the Bottom, but many more without any, as it is not an usual Thing but upon particular Occasions.

As you said you received Letters from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, did you ever receive One with a Mark?

I have already said that I rather think not.

If a Person was to write a Letter, and put the Mark before explained, would it be considered as a Forgery?

If he copied the Nabob's own Mark it would certainly be a Forgery.

Is Forgery a capital Crime in *India*?

I don't know the Law on that Subject, but I never knew any one capitally punished for it.

Do you believe this Letter, upon viewing it with all its Circumstances, to be a genuine Letter from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to *Nundcomar*?

I have some Doubts about it, but wish to consider it more at Leisure before I give an Opinion. — I think it unlikely that the Nabob would write to *Nundcomar* in the Style he does concerning *Nobekiffen*, as giving him Information, which I should suppose he was well acquainted with before, *Nobekiffen* having been long in *Nundcomar's* Service.

Was *Nobekiffen* made a Rajah?

I have heard so, and believe he was.

Mr. *Gonshamdas* was again called, and asked,

What is the Punishment for Forgery in *India*?

The Right Hand to be cut off.

Do you know of any Instance of a Hand being cut off for that Offence?

No. — I have heard of such Punishment being inflicted for that Crime.

Your Committee then read the following Papers, Copies of which are herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

The Deed between Lord *Clive* and the Company, with the Regulations.

Muxadabad

*Muxadabad* Consultations, 17th December 1770: The Begum's Letter of Complaint against *Mahomed Reza Carum*.

Ditto 3d January 1771; Answer to ditto.

Par. 33. of Lord Clive's Letter to the Committee of Correspondence, 28th August 1767.

Letter from Ditto to the Court of Directors, 16th January 1768.

The Opinion of Sir Fletcher Norton, relating to the Legacy from the Begum.

Par. 126 and 137 of Letter from the Court of Directors to Bengal, dated 16th March 1768.  
State of Military Fund.

Captain Swinton having had the Letter produced by Governor *Johnstone* some Days in his Possession, in order to compare it with others in the Possession of Lord Clive and General Carnac, and being again examined with regard to the said Letter from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to *Nundecmar*, was asked,

Have you examined the Letter in *Persia* delivered to you, with other *Persian* Letters from *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, said to have been in your Possession?

I have compared it with Four Letters from *Nudjum ul Dowlab*—Two of which I find are sealed with his Father's Title of *Sujab al Moolck*, which was conferred upon him by the King after his Father's Death—the other Two with Seals exactly similar to that delivered to me by the Committee: All these Letters are to General Carnac—I have not been able to find any to myself from *Nudjum ul Dowlab*—I have examined 50 Letters received by Lord Clive, in the Course of a Month, from the King, *Sujab Dowlab*, *Mynyr o Dowlab*, *Syfa Dowlab*, *Mahomed Reza Carum*, and others.—I found only Three of these had any Signature to them, viz. One from the King, with a Mark called *Byze*—One from *Syfa Dowlab*, marked *Vuffalaam*, which means "Farewell"—according to *Meninski*, it also means *ne plus ultra*; and One from *Sujab ul Dowlab*, with the Mark of El Hawk, which means *Stop*.

After having had Time to examine the Letter delivered to you, and comparing it with others, do you believe it to be an original Letter from *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to *Nundecmar*?

I believe the Cover to be sealed with One of *Nudjum ul Dowlab*'s Seals—the Writing of the Body of the Letter is very similar to some of those others now produced from him, as is likewise the Mark at the End.—Of the 50 Letters, which I examined, 6 of them were dated on the Outside of the Cover; the Date of the Receipt was written in *English* on all of them, and in *Persia* on 21 of them—none of them were dated in the Letter itself—6 of them were not addressed, perhaps owing to their having been sent in Bags, and 4 of them had no Cover.—All those from *Nudjum ul Dowlab* (that I have found) to General Carnac are dated and signed with the above-mentioned Mark of El Hawk—there were none from him in the 50.—In another Bundle I found several from *Suffal Dowlab* to Lord Clive; all or most of which were marked with the Word *Verffalaam*, and dated.—In the same Bundle there was One from *Syfa ul Dowla* to General Carnac, signed with the same Mark as *Nudjum ul Dowlab*'s Letters.

With respect to the Two Translations, the reading of the *Persic* is a Matter of Difficulty with me; I therefore only attended to the particular Paragraph, which, on the Moonshier's reading the Letter, struck me at the last Meeting to be somewhat different from his Translation, and my Opinion was confirmed by the Translation afterwards produced.—I have now examined that Paragraph more particularly, and given what I think a literal Translation of it—as to the rest of the Letter, I don't find any material Difference between the Original and the Translation: The Paragraph referred to is literally, in my Opinion, as followeth; "At last, according to Dispositions (or Arrangements) a Note of 5

"Laak of Rupees, under the Seal of the Begum, was given, which, with the utmost Difficulty and Pains they took." In the Translation by *Gonebamdafs*, the same Paragraph is translated as follows: "At last they took a Note of 5 Lack of Rupees in Jewels, Gold Mohurs, and Rupees, under the Seal of the said Begum, which, after many Pretexes, was given to them, and they received it after many Excuses."

Is the Mark at the End of the Letter, produced by Governor *Johnstone*, peculiar to the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlab*, or is it used by other People?

I thought it was peculiar to him till I examined some Letters, from whence I found, that it was used by others, as above mentioned.

Three Papers stated to be the original Certificates, of which Copies were read before, were produced by Mr. *Stracey*; and likewise attested Translations of the same. Your Committee then examined *Henry Stracey*, Esquire, as follows:

Was it usual for Lord Clive to deliver other Originals to you, of which the Translations were left in the Office.

Lord Clive's Moonshy has frequently delivered to my Care *Persic* Letters, after the Translations had been entered on the Public Books.

Were those Letters respecting the Business of the Company?

I could not read the *Persia* Language, nor to my Memory did I ever read a Translation of any of them.

What Knowledge have you of the Translates being entered on the Company's Books?

No other than that it was customary, and that it is the Office of the *Persian* Translator so to do.

Do you believe that the Letters in general were delivered to you?

I believe they might have been, but I cannot answer for the Accuracy of Business in a *Persian* Translator.

Do you think that, except from the Inaccuracy of the *Persian* Translator, they were all delivered to you?

Perhaps they were.

Memorandum. [Mr. *Stracey* added the following, about an Hour after his Evidence was given, but before the Committee adjourned,]

But I recollect that many of the Letters of the Country Correspondence were stolen at *Chuprab*.

Memorandum. On Book of Country Correspondence: 1765, read as follows; viz. The above 58 Letters are all the Country Correspondence which ever came to my Hands, besides those beginning May 5th. A. N° 1. and proceeding regularly till December 1766.—The remaining Letters and Answers to them were, to the best of my Knowledge, lost at *Chuprab*, by a Robbery there committed upon the Munshies, in whose Custody they then were.

Robt Maddison,  
*Persian* Translator.

December 16 1766.

Where was Lord Clive when the Nabob, the Begum, and *Nundecmar*, gave him these Certificates?

I can't tell—I suppose at *Muxadabad*.—I don't recollect when, or where, they were delivered to me, but they were all delivered at the same Time.

Were they delivered to be kept as Evidence of Lord Clive's Title to the 5 Laaks?

They were delivered to me to take Care of.—I do not recollect that any particular Purpose was mentioned.—I knew at the Time that they were Certificates relative to the 5 Laaks.

Who informed you so?

I don't recollect whether I was informed so by Lord Clive, or the *Persian* Translator.

*Gonebamdafs* being again examined, was asked the following Questions:

Was the Mother of *Nudjum ul Dowlah* ever married to *Myr Jeffer*?

I believe not.

Was it so understood in general?

Yes.

If a Man is married in that Country, and leaves a Wife and Children, to whom does his Property go at his Decese?

To his lawful Wife; and after her Death, to the Children; the Sons taking certain Proportions, and the Daughters inferior ones; but Sons and Daughters equally amongst themselves. When they have neither Wife, nor Children, they may give their Property by Will; in the contrary Case they cannot.

Do you mean *Gentees*, or *Mahometans*?

In the Case of the *Mahometans*, the above Rule prevails—in the Case of *Gentees*, it goes only to the Sons; neither can a Man leave his Effects from a Brother, or Sister, or other lawful Heir.

Does this Rule hold good with the Nabobs?

I believe it does, but it depends on their Power.

*Henry Strachey*, Esquire, was then asked,

Were these Translations the first that were made?

I believe not.

Your Committee then again called Captain *Swinton*, who was asked the following Questions.

On comparing the Mark of the Certificate from the Nabob with the Mark to the Letter produced by Governor *Johnstone*, do you think that both Marks are written by the same Hand?

I do not think they were, neither do I think it like the Marks to the Letters.

As the Marks are not made by the same Person, do you think either of them were made by the Nabob?

As I never saw the Nabob write, I cannot say whether either of these or any of the others were actually his own Hand Writing.

What is the Scroll at the Top of the Nabob's Certificate?

It seems to be *Munzurest*, but it is very ill wrote:—It signifies in *English*, “it is acknowledged or agreed to.”

Do you suppose that was written by a Moonshy, or by the Nabob?

It does not seem to have been written by a Moonshy, whose Profession is Writing, because it is so very ill wrote.

Does the Certificate appear to you as authentically the Nabob's as any other Letter you have ever seen of his?

It is sealed with One of the Seals used by the Nabob, with the Title of *Sujab ul Moolk*; but it is impossible for me to declare any of those *Persic* Papers to be actually the Deed of the Nabob.

Do you think that the Writing of any of the Letters now compared is similar to the Writing of the Certificate?

I cannot decide positively, I rather think them to be different.

How many Moonshys had the Nabob?

Several.

*Gonehamdasi* being again examined, was asked the following Questions:

Is the Mark at the Bottom of the Letter, produced by Mr. *Johnstone*, like the Mark at the Bottom of the Nabob's Certificate.

No—they are very different, and so is the Writing from all the Letters I have seen here.

What is the Scroll at the Side of the Nabob's Certificate?

It is *Munzurast*, and means “it is granted,” but it is written I believe just as a Person writes at the Time of his Death, and is not able to write properly; or a Per-

son trembling and going into Fits, and cannot hold the Pen properly; or like a Boy of 4, or 5 Years of Age, who does not know how to write;—it is written with a broken Pen, that was mended for every Stroke.

Do you think it is the Hand Writing of the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah*?

By those Marks I have seen on Mr. *Swinton's* Letters, and the Letter produced by Governor *Johnstone*, it appears quite different;—there is no Similitude at all.

Is it not possible that the Mark to the Certificate may be the Nabob's own Writing, and the Marks to the Letters put by the Moonshes?

It is not usual for the Moonshy to write both the Letter and the Mark, that being always put by the principal Person.

Are the Scroll at the Side, and the Mark at the End, written by the same Hand?

I suppose he must have made another Pen, if they were written by the same Person.

Are the Certificates of *Munny Begum* and the Nabob wrote by the same Person?

I believe they are.

Captain *Swinton* being asked the same Question, said,

I think them extremely different.

Your Committee then examined the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, who delivered in a Paper in the following Words, and also the Deposition of Mr. *Simon Drez*, Copy of which is hereto annexed, N° 21.

“A few days after my Arrival at *Calcutta*, in May 1765, the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowla* came down from *Muxadabad* to visit me: That very Day, or the Day after, we rode out together in an open Chaise; and *Nobkissen*, who spoke *English*, and was the Interpreter, rode behind.—The Nabob took that Opportunity to inform me, that his Father had left me 5 Lack of Rupees, which he said were in Jewels, Gold Mohurs, and Silver, and that the Whole was in the Hands of his Mother the Begum, who would pay it whenever I pleased. \*I mentioned this Circumstance to several Gentlemen very soon after, particularly to Mr. *Strachey* and Mr. *Vereff*. At that Time I resolved in my own Mind not to accept the Legacy; but afterwards, when, in Obedience to the Company's Commands, we had ordered the Double Batta of the Army to be struck off, it occurred to me, that that Legacy might be converted into a Military Fund for the Benefit of invalid Officers and Soldiers, and Windsor:—Upon that Principle I demanded Payment of the Legacy in April 1766. At first I thought of confining this Fund to the Benefit of the Army in Bengal only, but wishing to have it extended to all the Company's other Settlements, and thinking the 5 Laak insufficient, I applied to the Nabob *Syf ul Dowla* to add 3 Laaks more, to which he readily consented, upon my explaining to him the Purpose to which the Money was to be applied.”

At what Time did your Lordship receive the *Persian* Certificates produced by Mr. *Strachey*?

I cannot be certain, but I think in the Month of April 1766.

Did you receive them all at the same Time?

I imagine so, but don't know: I imagine it must have been at *Muxadabad* that I received them.

Were the Certificates taken by your Direction?

As I learnt by Word of Mouth from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, that such a Legacy had been left me by his Father, I desired a particular Account of the Manner in which that Legacy was left might be given in Writing by those Persons who were present upon the Occasion: I cannot recollect who I employed on this Occasion, but in all Probability it was *Nobkissen*.

Who wrote the *English* Words on the Certificates?

I don't know.

*Henry Strachey*, Esquire, being asked the same Question, said,  
I believe them to be in Mr. *Maddison's* Hand Writing.

Lord *Clive* being again examined, was asked,  
Had your Lordship any Translation made at the Time?  
I can't recollect.

Why did not you lay the Translations before the Board till *January 1767*?  
Because I did not think it necessary, until I had formed a Plan for the Disposition of the Money in a Military Fund.

Is it customary in *Indostan* to grant Certificates, without Dates of the Time of their being granted?  
I believe it is very customary to write Letters, and of course Certificates, without Dates.

In Letters is not the Date generally marked on the Outside of the Cover?

I am not acquainted with the *Persic* Language, and do not know whether they are or not.

When the Nabob acquainted you of the Legacy which his Father had left you in 1765, when in the Chaise as above stated, did you tell him that you was resolved not to accept it?

I did not give him any positive Answer; but imagine that I rather seemed to decline it.

Was the Affidavit of Mr. *Droz* taken at your Desire?

Yes.

What were the Foundations of your Scruples against receiving the Legacy in the First Instance?  
Because I had promised to the Court of Directors and Proprietors, that I would not benefit myself, directly or indirectly, in the Value of One Shilling by my Government in *India*.

Did you ever hear of a Person making a Will in that Country?

I have heard from other *English* Gentlemen, that they do make Wills in that Country.

Did you ever see a Certificate in *India* without a Date?

I do not recollect ever to have seen any others than these.

Mr. *Gonefbamdas* being again examined, was asked,

Do you know what is meant by a Will?

Yes—I mean a Disposal of Things according to a Person's own Choice, to take Place after the Death of the Person making that Disposal.

Do you know any Instance of a Will so made?

Yes—my Uncle on my Mother's Side, before the Time of his Death, but when he was in his right Senses, made a Will to dispose every Thing to my Mother after the Time of his Death.

Then Lord *Clive* was asked the following Question:

Was the Covenant, making the Legacy of Five Laaks of Rupees, a collateral Security for the Payment of your Jaghire, in case you should be evicted of that Jaghire, of no Value?

It will be Time enough to answer that Question when the Money is received, and disposed of by me.

Your Committee then examined *William Bolts*, Esquire; who was asked the following Question:

What is the Letter in your Hand?

It is a Letter which I received from *Nudjum ul Dowlah*, in *February 1765*. I waited on the Nabob with the Letter, and he avowed it to be his.

Mr. *Gonefbamdas* being shewed the Letter produced by Mr. *Jabbar*, and that produced by Mr. *Bolts*, was asked,

Are the Marks at the Bottom of them the same?

Yes.

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Did you ever know any Certificate without a Date?

I never saw any one Certificate without Date, but the Three produced, by Mr. *Strachey*; nor without the Seal of the Caze, and the Attestation of Two Witnesses. In Places where there is no Caze, there is an Assembly of People, and they testify.

Did you ever see any other Certificates?

Yes.

What Sort of Papers are those attested with the Caze's Seal, and Two Witnesses?

Certificates, Wills, and Bonds, and Grants, and of the Sort of Certificates now produced.

Did you ever see any Certificate of that Sort?

I have seen Certificates of that Nature, but not without Signatures of Witnesses, Seals, and Dates.

Did you ever see any Certificates from Nabobs?

No.

Did you ever hear of *Mabometans* making Wills?

Yes.

Did you ever know of a verbal Will, with regard to Money, being made, and carried into Execution?

I never heard of One being made.

Twenty Certificates under the Caze's Seal, and the Prices of Goods at different Places, were produced, and proved by Mr. *Swinton*, *Gonefbamdas*, and Mr. *Bolts*, to be dated and witnessed.

Then *William Bolts*, Esquire, was again examined.

Did you ever know a Certificate in *Bengal*, that was not dated?

I never did, and according to the Customs of *Indostan* should have deemed such a Declaration invalid.

Have you any Certificates under the Hands of the Nabob?

Yes—I have *Perwannahs* under the Hand of the Nabob *Sujab ul Dowlah*, which are signed, sealed, and dated—a Receipt from the King, which is dated and sealed—a Bond from *Sujab Dowlah*, which is dated and sealed—*Perwannahs* under the Hands of Mr. *Verelst* and Mr. *Cartier*, which are dated, signed, and sealed, and various Duticks and Passes, which are all signed, sealed, and dated; which I now produce.

The Papers being produced, the Seals and Dates were confirmed by Mr. *Swinton* and *Gonefbamdas*.

And Mr. *Bolts* being further examined, was asked,

What is the Purport of these *Perwannahs* from *Sujab Dowlah*, now produced?

They relate to the Trade in Salt Petre.—The Bond from *Sujab Dowla* is for Money and Goods, which I furnished him in his Distress—the Receipt from the King is from him to Mr. *Rasael*, for Duties paid at *Ilalabad*.

Then *Gonefbamdas* was asked,

Do you think *Nandumar* would come to *England*?

Without Force he can't come, because it is contrary to the Laws of his Religion, he being a *Bramin*—it is contrary to the Religion of the *Hindoes* to come to *England*—the Consequence would be losing their Cast; but by paying Money and doing Penance at their Return, they would regain it.—I am a *Hindoo*.

Is a *Hindoo* deemed infamous by quitting his Country.

It is contrary to the Law, but he recovers himself by Penalty and Penance.

Did you ever know any Instance of *Hindoes*, who lost their Cast by going upon the Sea, who afterwards regained it?

I never heard of a *Hindoo* going upon the Sea out of my Country, but from the Coast of *Malabar* they go very frequently, and are not affected by it.

7 A

No

Do they go long Voyages?

I don't know, but they do go upon the Sea.

Do any but the Sailor Cast go?

Yes—some others—I don't know what, for I never was in ~~that~~ Country.

Then *Henry Strachey*, Esquire, produced to Your Committee an original Certificate or Declaration, sealed by *Sujab Dowla*, in the same Manner as the Certificates relating to the Nabob's Legacy to Lord *Clive*, and the Seal proved by General *Carnac*.

It having been observed, that *Mr. Droz's* Certificate is not signed by him, *Mr. Strachey* produced the original Letter from *Mr. Droz* to Lord *Clive*, in which the said Certificate came inclosed to Lord *Clive*, a Copy of which is herunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 22.

And Governor *Jobynstone* being examined, was asked the following Question.

How came you by the Letter from *Nudjum ul Dowlab* to *Nundcomar*, produced by you?

The Letter was delivered to me by a Gentleman who was in *Bengal* at the Time those Transactions happened,

and he told me, he received it from *Nundcomar*, himself, soon after it was wrote, and he shewed me, at the same Time, a Translation of the Letter by *Mr. George Vanfittart*, whose Hand Writing I know, and permitted me to take a Copy of that Translation, which is the liberal Translation I produce to the Committee; but the Gentleman, unwilling to involve himself in any Disputes, took my Promise, that his Name should not be mentioned to the Committee, which I before related upon producing the Letter.—The Reason why he would not give me the original Translation was, because it was indorbed by some Persons, whose Hand Writing might be known.—The Letter must stand upon the Evidence that is produced to authenticate it as an Original.—I readily delivered it, in the Presence of the Committee, to *Mr. Swinton*, General *Carnac's* Persian Translator, to compare it with all the Correspondence of *Nudjum ul Dowlab* with Lord *Clive*, General *Carnac*, and himself, and also to compare the Indorsement, by *Nundcomar*, with his Correspondence.—The Evidence of *Mr. Swinton*, after having had it Two Days in his Possession, and compared it, will shew what Reliance may be had on it as an Original.



# A P P E N D I X.

## Nº 1.

*Fort William General Consultations, 14th April 1766.*

**L**ETTER from the Right honourable Lord Clive, dated the 8th Instant at *Mootejil*, read, signifying to us his Intention of appropriating a Legacy of Five Lacks of Rupees, bequeathed to him by the late Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, as a Fund for the Relief of the Officers and private Men, who have become Invalids in the honourable Company's Service, and the Widows of such as may have lost their Lives in it, unless the Company should think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a Right to the same under the new Covenants; and that he intends the Governor and Council of *Fort William* to be perpetual Trustees for the Appropriation of this Fund in *India*, and the Court of Directors in *England*.

The Board are unanimously of Opinion, That the Receipt of the Legacy bequeathed by *Meer Jaffer* to Lord *Clive* is no Ways prohibited by the new Covenants; and cannot here help expressing the lively Sense we have of this generous and well-placed Donation to succour Distress, which has so long called for Relief. Agreed to return an Answer to his Lordship accordingly; and at the same Time to acquaint him, that we shall cheerfully accept the Honour he intends us, in appointing us Trustees for the Appropriation of this Fund in *India*.

Ordered, That Lord *Clive's* Letter on this Occasion, with the Answer, be entered after these Minutes.

## Nº 2.

*Fort William General Consultation, 14th April 1766.*

To *William Brightwell Sumner*, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of Council at *Fort William*.

Gentlemen,

**I** Have the Honour to inform you, that upon a Supposition, that the Receipt of a Legacy was not intended to be prohibited by the new Covenants, I have received from the Begum, Wife of the late Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, an Obligation for the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees, which was bequeathed to me by his Excellency a few Hours before his Death, in the Presence of many Witnesses, whose Attestation shall, as soon as possible, be laid before the Board. When this Obligation is discharged, I shall immediately pay the Amount into the Company's Treasury at *Calcutta*. The Interest arising therefrom I propose shall be annually distributed in such Proportions as I establish, among a certain Number of Officers, Non Commission Officers, and private Men, who are disqualified from further Service,

by Wounds, Length of Service, or Disables contracted in the Service of the Company, and whose Fortunes may be too scanty to afford the former a genteel, the latter a comfortable, Subsistence in their native Country. I intend further, that the Widows of all such Officers and Soldiers as shall have been intitled to this Bounty, or whose Husbands shall have lost their Lives in the Service, shall receive a certain Proportion of the same during their Widowhoods. The Governor and Council of *Fort William* will be perpetual Trustees for the Appropriation of this Fund in *India*, and the Court of Directors in *England*. On my Return to the Presidency, or sooner, if Business will permit, I shall have the Honour to lay before you such Regulations as I may think best adapted to the fulfilling my Purposes above-mentioned; and on my Arrival in *England*, the same shall be confirmed, with a proper Instrument or Deed of Gift of the Principal and Interest of the said Five Lacks of Rupees for ever, agreeable to the due Forms of Law, unless

unless the Company should think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a Right to the same under the new Covenants.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,  
Gentlemen,  
your most obedient,  
and most humble Servant,

*Moortyjl,*  
8th April 1766.

*Clive.*

To the Right honourable Robert Lord Clive, &c.

My Lord,  
We have received your Favour of the 8th Instant, expressing your Intention of appropriating the Legacy of Five Lacks of Rupees, bequeathed to your Lordship by the late Nabob Meer Jaffer, as a Fund for the

Relief of the Officers and private Men, who are become Invalids in the honourable Company's Service, and the Widows of such as may have lost their Lives in it. We are unanimously of Opinion, that the Receipt of this Legacy is no Way prohibited by the new Covenants; and cannot help expressing the lively Sense we have of this generous and well-placed Donation to mitigate Distress, which has so long looked for Relief. — So noble an Example of Beneficence cannot fail to inspire the Applause and Approbation of every one; and we shall cheerfully accept the Honour intended us by your Lordship, in appointing us Trustees for the Appropriation of this Fund in India.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord,  
your Lordship's most obedient,  
humble Servants.

### N<sup>o</sup> 3.

Extract of the General Letter from Bengal, dated the 28th November 1766.

108. LORD Clive, in a Letter to the Board from *Moortyjl*, dated the 8th April last, informed us of his Intention to appropriate a Legacy of Five Lacks of Rupees, bequeathed to him by the Nabob Meer Jaffer, as a Fund for the Relief of the Officers and private Men, who have, or may, become Invalids in the Company's Service, and the Widows of such as may lose their Lives in it, unless the Company should think proper to claim and prove a Right to the same, under the new Covenants. His Lordship also purposed, That the President and Council of Fort William should be perpetual Trustees for the Appropriation of this Fund in India, and the Court of Directors in England.

109. As we do not conceive such a Legacy to be prohibited by the Covenants, we acquainted his Lordship, in Answer, That we should cheerfully accept the Honour he intended us, in acting as Trustees on this Occasion; and as the Regulations finally establishing this noble Institution must rest entirely with his Lordship, we have nothing further to observe, than that Lord Clive, by so generous an Instance of his Disinterestedness, and zealous Attachment to the Honour and Welfare of the Company, has ensured to your Forces the only Advantage wherein they have hitherto been inferior to any in the known World, and thereby ensured to you a Succession of the bravest and most honourable Men and Officers.

### N<sup>o</sup> 4.

Fort William General Consultation, 11th December 1766.

THE President lays before the Board, as entered hereafter, a Letter from the Nabob Syf o Dowla to Lord Clive, purporting, That last Year his late Brother paid the Sum of Six Lacks of Rupees into the Company's Cash, upon Bond; that Three Lacks have since been paid to him at Moorshedabad, and the Balance of Three Lacks, which remain, he desires may be added to the Fund, established by Lord Clive, for the Maintenance and Support of the Invalid Military in the Com-

pany's Service, and the Families of such as may lose their Lives in it.

Ordered, That an Interest Note be granted for the said Money, in the Name of Lord Clive, in order that his Lordship may appropriate the same to the Purpose desired; and the President is requested to return our Thanks to the Nabob, for so handsomely contributing to this charitable Institution.

### N<sup>o</sup> 5.

Fort William General Consultation, 11th December 1766.

From the Nabob Syf ul Dowla to the Right honourable Lord Clive — Received 11th October 1766.

SOME Time ago my deceased Brother, the Nabob Najim ul Dowla, paid to your Excellency the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees, agreeable to the Commands of our late Father Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn; and we hear you have settled that Sum for the Soldiers, &c. — Last Year my late Brother paid in Six Lacks of

Rupees into the Company's Cash, upon Bond; of this Money Three Lacks have been paid to me at Moorshedabad, and the Balance of Three Lacks, which remains, I give as a Fund to be disposed of in the same Manner as the former Five Lacks, and request your Excellency to settle it after the same Manner.

A true Translation,  
Robert Maddison, Persian Translator.

N<sup>o</sup> 6.

Fort William General Consultations, 28th January 1767.

IN my Letter of the 18th of April last, I informed you of a Legacy of Five Lacks of Rupees left to me by the Nabob Meer Jaffer, and of the Purpose to which I determined it should be applied; I now beg Leave to lay before you the several Papers which prove incontestably my Title to this Legacy; viz. Attested Copies and Translations of *Nizam Dowla's*, the Lady Begum's, and *Nusdcomar's* Acknowledgements.

The present Nabob being made acquainted with the Fund I had established, and the great Encouragement it would be to the Officers and Soldiers to fight in his, as well as the Company's, Cause, generously added a

Present of Three Lacks of Rupees, as will appear by his Letter upon the Subject, which has already been laid before you. All the Bonds are drawn out in my Name, but I acknowledge that they are not my Property. I make no Doubt but the Company will approve of the Donation, and that upon my Arrival in England the Court of Directors will accept of my appointing them Trustees for the Fund. Inclosed is a Sketch of the Plan I propose for the Distribution of the Money; which being now a very large Sum, should, I think, extend the Bounty to all the Company's Settlements in general.

N<sup>o</sup> 7.

" A Certificate of a Legacy left by the late Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn to the Right honourable Lord Clive, amounting to Five Lacks of Rupees in Money and Effects. Given under the Hand and Seal of the Nabob Najim ul Dowlah.

Place of the  
Signing.

Place of the  
Seal.

MY late most honoured Father, venerable as Mecca (whose Offences are wiped away) when he was alive, of sound Mind, and in the full Enjoyment of all his mortal Faculties, after having appointed me his Successor, gave me repeated Orders to the following Purport: " Out of the whole Money and Effects which I have in my Possession, I have bequeathed the Sum of Three Lacks Fifty thousand Rupees in Money — Fifty thousand Rupees in Jewels, and One Lack in Gold Mohurs; in all, Five Lacks of Rupees, in Money and Effects,

" to the Light of my Eyes, the Nabob firm in War, Lord Clive, the Hero—accordingly I have deposited the aforesaid Amount with my Lady Begum, and you will distribute what remains, after the Settlement on your Mother, the Lady Begum, is paid, agreeable to the several Proportions which I have allotted." In Witness therefore to the Truth of this Promise of the late Nabob, I have given these few Lines as a Certificate that it may be fulfilled.

The above is a faithful Translation from the *Persian* Original under the Hand and Seal of the Nabob Najim ul Dowlah. — Witness my Hand, this 16th Day of January 1767.

R. Maddison,  
*Persian* Translator.

N<sup>o</sup> 8.

A Certificate from the Lady Meny Bigum, Wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn, and Mother to Najim ul Dowlah.

HIS Excellency the deceased Nabob, when he was alive, of sound Mind, and in the full Enjoyment of all his mortal Faculties, gave me repeated Orders to the following Purport: " Out of the whole Money and Effects which I have in my Possession, I have bequeathed the Sum of Three Lacks Fifty thousand Rupees in Money, Fifty thousand Rupees in Jewels, and One Lack in Gold Mohurs; in all, Five Lacks of Rupees in Money and Effects, to the Light of my Eyes, the Nabob firm in War, Lord Clive the Hero. — The Remainder, after your Marriage Settlement is paid,

Place of the  
Seal.

" you will distribute agreeable to the several Proportions I have allotted." — In Witness therefore to the Truth of this Promise of the late Nabob, I have given these few Lines as a Certificate.

The above is a faithful and literal Translation from the *Persian* Original under the Seal of Meny Bigum, Wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn, &c. Witness my Hand this 16th of January 1767.

R. Maddison,  
*Persian* Translator.

## N° 9.

THE Nabob, the Hero of the Empire, *Meer Mohamed Jaffer Cawn*, deceased (whose Offences are wiped away) fell sick a few Days after his Return from *Calcutta* to *Murshedabad*, and his Illness daily increased upon him. When the Nabob (whose Offences are done away) found that he must take his Departure from this mortal World; he at that Time gave Orders to the Nabob *Nijim ul Dewlah*, That out of his whole ready Money he should pay to the Nabob, Lord *Clive*, firm

in War, the Hero, the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees.

Place of the  
Seal.

The above is a faithful and literal Translation from the *Perfian* Original, under the Seal of *Meha Rajah Nund Komar*: Witness my Hand, this 16th Day of January 1767.

R. Maddison,  
*Perfian* Translator.

## N° 10.

A Sketch of the Plan proposed by Lord *Clive*, for the Distribution of the Legacy left to his Lordship by the Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, and of the Present from the Nabob *Syf-a-Dewlah*, in Aid of his Lordship's intended Fund.

THE whole Sum, amounting to Eight Lacks of Sicca Rupees, to remain in the Company's Treasury at *Fort William*, bearing the usual Interest of 8 per Cent. per Annum.

The annual Amount of Interest to be distributed in the Manner undermentioned, to such a Number of Officers, Soldiers, and Widows, as the Money will admit of, the Propriety of whose Claims is to be settled agreeably to the Dates of their Certificates.

No Officer or Soldier is to be intitled to the Bounty, unless he be disabled by Wounds, or other Accidents, or rendered incapable by Age or Length of Services.

No Officer or Soldier is to be intitled to this Bounty, who does not produce a Certificate from his Commanding Officer, of his being an Invalid, and rendered incapable of further Service in *India*, together with an Approbation of that Certificate by the Governor and Council.

This Bounty is only to extend to such Officers as are obliged, through any of the Misfortunes abovementioned, to return to *England* in indigent Circumstances; every Officer, therefore, applying for the Bounty, must make Oath, in the most solemn Manner, before the Governor and Council, to the following Purport; viz.

A Colonel, That he is not, in Real and	
Personal Estate, possessed of	£. 4,000
A Lieutenant Colonel	3,000
A Major	2,500
A Captain	2,000
A Lieutenant	1,000
An Ensign	750

## DISTRIBUTION.

To a Colonel	£. 300
To a Lieutenant Colonel	250
To a Major	200
To a Captain	150
To a Lieutenant	100
To an Ensign	70
To a Sergeant	20
To a Corporal	15
To a private Man	10

The Widows of all those Officers and Soldiers, who had Pensions, are to enjoy One Half of the same, so long as they remain unmarried.

## N° 11.

To the Right honourable Lord *Clive*.  
From the Nabob N° 109.  
Received 9th June 1765.

I Have been favoured with your Letter, wherein you write that "there is a very large Sum due to the Merchants on Account of the Restitution; that the Monthly Payments to the Company are some Lacks of Rupees behindhand; that the Company are distressed in their Expences; that the Merchants suffer great Inconveniences from being kept out of their Money; that you understand I have a very large

"Sum ready in my Treasury; and that you therefore desire I will speedily pay Six Lacks of Rupees."

It is not unknown to you how little I am at this Time acquainted with the Collections of the Country. Be there a small or large Sum ready in the Public Treasury, I know nothing about it: With regard to the Money which is in my House in *Calcutta*, and which you have heard of, the late Nabob at his Departure out of this Life gave Five Lack to me, and the rest to the Begum: By the Blessing of God, you are a Man of Justice, and my elder Brother; do whatsoever may be your Pleasure.

N<sup>o</sup> 12.

Translation of a Letter from the Nabob *Nudjum ul Dowlah* to *Maharajah Nandumar*, dated the 27th of *Shawal* of the 7th Year (the 8th of April 1766.)

I Had the Pleasure to receive your Letter, and rejoice to hear of your Welfare—Thank God I am also well.—I met Lord *Clive* (the Nabob *Ameer al Momalik Sabut Jung Bahadur*) and General *Carnac* (*Manfoor ul Muluk General Bahadur*) at *Plaffy*, and they received me very kindly. On the 24th Instant (the 5th of April) his Lordship, the General, and Mr. *Sykes*, arrived at the Kella: The Begum, my Mother, sent *Hajee Saadut* to call those Gentlemen to her; and after much Solicitation, prevailed on them to accept from her a Paper under her Seal, for Five Lacks of Rupees in Jewels, Rupees, and Gold Mohurs; this I have written for your Information: With regard to what you write me, that I should make known my Requests to his Lordship, through the General, I will follow your Advice—but *Nobekiffen* Moonshy having waited on me about Business, made many Professions of Fidelity and Attachment to me, and then came in a roundabout Manner to the Point, and spoke much of the great Confidence reposed in him by his Lordship.—In short, from the Tenor of his Conversation it appears, that there is no one in greater Credit with his Lordship than he is: Accordingly he said to me, "Such of the *English* Counsellors and Gentlemen of Rank as were my Friends, I have caused to be raised to Dignity and Reputation by his Lordship; and Mr. *George Gray*, and others, who, through their Pride and Self-sufficiency, did not consider me, but bore an Enmity towards me, them I have caused to be in such a Manner discredited and debased, that they have been turned out of their

"Employments, and are gone to *Europe*.—In like Manner, Mr. *Semner*, who was my Enemy, I have caused to be totally discredited and neglected. As his late Excellency looked upon me as a faithful Dependant of his own, and shewed me much Favour, so do you also regard me as one of your Servants and Well-wishers, and freely acquaint me with all your Wants; and by the Blessing of God, I will accomplish them. I am your Well-wisher, and I will do for you what is not in the Power of any one else."

As you, my Friend, are much better acquainted, than I am, with the Situation and Circumstances of Persons in *Calcutta*, I beg you will speedily inform me, whether what *Nobekiffen* has been telling me of his own Consequence, and relative to Mr. *Semner* and Mr. *Gray*, &c. is really true or not, and speedily give me your Advice in what Manner I should behave to him, and what Presents I should make him.—Although he professes Attachment for me, and desires me to employ him in the Management of my Concerns; yet as I am credibly informed that he is closely connected with the Naib (*Mahomed Reza Cawn*) that the Naib has paid him very handsomely, and is often sending him various Kinds of Goods; and he is in Consequence sincerely attached to him, and is frequently engaged Night and Day in Consultation with him; I therefore do not give any Credit to the Professions he makes me, nor will I knowingly suffer myself to be imposed upon.—Consider this Matter maturely, and write me your Advice concerning it, and I will act accordingly.

N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Kind Sir and Brother,

I Received your pleasing Letter, and am acquainted with the Purport of it. Thanks be to God, I am very well, and very glad to hear you are the same.—I had been as far as *Plaffy*, in order to meet the Nabob *Ameer al Momalik Sabut Jung Bahadur*; and *Manfoor ul Muluk General Bahadur*, whom God preserve; and at last I had the Meetings with great Pleasure. On the 24th of this present Month, Nabob *Ameer al Momalik*, the General, and Mr. *Sykes*, came into the Castle, and the Begum sent for them by *Hajee Sadut*. At last they took a Note of Five Lacks of Rupees in Jewels, Gold Mohurs, and Rupees, under the Seal of the said Begum; which, after many Pretext, was given to them, and they received it after many Excuses. I have written this to you in order to make you acquainted with it.

Kind Sir, as you wrote me to acquaint Nabob *Lud Sahab* of my Circumstances, by Means of the Nabob General *Bahadur*, I shall act in every thing agreeably to the Advice of you, my Brother: But at this Time *Nobekiffen* Moonshy has been with me upon Business. After sending forth his good Wishes and Gratitude, he by the Way introduced the Subject of his Influence and Favour with the Nabob *Lud Sahab*, and expatiated much upon it.—By the Purport of his Conversation, I understood that there is no Person who has more Power and Credit with the said Nabob, than the said Moonshy; for, said he, "I have given Honour and Exaltation be-

"fore the said Nabob, to all the Counsellors and great *English* Gentlemen, who bear a Friendship for me; and Mr. *George Gray*, and the rest, who with Pride and Insolence made no Account of me, but bore me Malice and Hatred—I have got them to degraded and dishonoured, that after being turned out of their Posts, they are gone to *Europe*.—In the same Manner Mr. *Semner*, who was an Enemy of mine, I caused him to be so disliked and distrusted, that he became acquainted with the End of his Power. Since (*Jemab Ally*) the late Nabob looked upon me as a Well-wisher, and one of his own Servants, and did me much Favour and Kindness. You also, Sir, as the late Nabob did, will please to regard me as one among the Number of your Servants and Well-wishers, and order me, without Hesitation, any Affairs or Business you may wish for, and with the Blessing of God it shall be done agreeably to your Wishes; and those Services to your Government, which will be done by me, it will not be possible for the Power of any other."

Seeing that you, my Friend, are better acquainted with the Men and Situation of that Place than I am, therefore I write you, that whatever the said Moonshy has said of his own Credit and Power, his degrading and turning out Mr. *George Gray*, &c. and rendering Mr. *Semner* despicable, if this is really Fact, you will let me know soon, and whatever you judge proper and fit to be done,

done, for the Regard and Favour of the said Munthy, write it to me.—Kind Sir, Although the said Munthy pretends to be my Will-wither, and wants to manage my Business himself; nevertheless, as it appears certain to me from trusty People, that the said Munthy has a great Regard and Friendship for the Nab (meaning *Mabomed Reza Cawn*) and the Naib has given him something very handsome, and is frequently sending Goods and Things to him; and likewise as the said (Munthy)

with Heart and Soul attends to the Good of the said Naib, and in this Place is sitting with him often whole Days and Nights, privately consulting together; on this Account I cannot put Confidence or Trust in his Words, and cannot be deceived with Eyes open; and therefore, favourable Sir, having well weighed and considered this Matter, whatever is proper Advice, write me that I may act accordingly.—More: May the Times be agreeable to you.

N<sup>o</sup> 14.Agreement between the *East India Company*, and the Right honourable Lord *Clive*.

Preamble.

**T**HIS Indenture, made the Sixth Day of April, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; and in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy; Between the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the *East Indies*, of the one Part; and the Right honourable Robert Lord *Clive*, Baron of *Plaffy*, in the Kingdom of Ireland, and Knight of the Most honourable Order of the Bath, of the other Part: Whereas *Meer Mabomed Jaffer Cawn*, deceased, late Nabob of the Kingdom or Province of Bengal, did before his Death, in the Presence of Three Witnesses (to wit) *Najim al Dowla*, his Son, Lady Begam, his Wife, and Meha Rajah *Nuncomar*, according to the Form and Manner of testamentary Acts used in that Country, bequeath unto the said Robert Lord *Clive*, out of the Monies and Effects which the said Nabob had in his Possession, the Sum of Three Lacks of Rupees, 50,000 Rupees in Money, 50,000 Rupees in Jewels, and One Lack in Gold Mohurs, in all Five Lacks of Rupees, as by the Contents of the said Bequest contained in Three Certificates, made by the aforesaid Witnesses, in the Persian Language, and the Translations thereof into the English Language, now in the Custody of the said Company, may more fully appear: And whereas, at the Time of the said *Meer Jaffer's* Death, the said Robert Lord *Clive* was at Sea, on his Voyage from England to India, and after his Arrival in the Province of Bengal, *Najim al Dowla*, eldest Son of the said *Meer Jaffer*, did, agreeably to the Commands of his said Father, pay to the said Robert Lord *Clive* the said Five Lacks of Sicca Rupees, of the Value of £. 62,833. 6 s. 8 d. Sterling, which the said Robert Lord *Clive* paid into the said *East India Company's* Treasury at *Calcutta*, at different Times, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six, and thereupon Notes were signed to his Lordship for the same Five Lacks of Sicca Rupees, carrying Interest after the Rate of £. 8 per Cent, per Annum Sterling, until paid. And whereas the said Robert Lord *Clive*, being zealous for the Prosperity of the said Company, the Security of their Territories, and territorial Revenues in India, belonging to them, and their Trade and Commerce, which greatly

depend on the Bravery and Conduct of the said Company's Troops; and considering that the Establishment of a Provision for such of the Officers and private Men employed in the Company's Service, as should be disabled by Age, War, or Disease contracted during their Service, would tend to induce fit Persons to enter into the said Service, and encourage the Bravery of the Soldiers employed therein, hath proposed to the Court of Directors of the said United Company to appropriate the Interest of the said Five Lacks of Rupees, for the Support of a certain Number of Officers, Non Commission Officers, and private Men, in the Service of the said Company, who from Wounds, Length of Service, or Diseases contracted during their Service, were unable or unfit to serve any longer, and whose Fortunes might be too scanty to afford the Officers a decent, and the private Men a comfortable, Subsistence, in their native Country; and also to make some Provision for the Widows of such Officers and private Men as should have been intitled to the said Bounty, or whose Husbands should have lost their Lives in the said United Company's Service: And whereas *Jef al Dowla*, the present Nabob of Bengal aforesaid, hath given to the said United Company the Sum of Three Lacks of Rupees, as an Addition to the above-mentioned Fund: And whereas the said Three Lacks of Rupees were carried to Account in the said United Company's Treasury in the Month of April One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-seven, and the said Company's Note for the said Three Lacks of Sicca Rupees, amounting to the Sum of £. 37,700 Sterling, carrying Interest after the Rate of £. 8. by the Hundred, by the Year, was issued from the said Company's Treasury at *Calcutta*, payable to the said Robert Lord *Clive*: And whereas the said Robert Lord *Clive* hath also proposed, that the said Court of Directors, and their Successors, shall be perpetual Trustees of the said Fund of Five Lacks of Rupees, as well as of the said Three Lacks of Rupees, for the due Application and Appropriation of the Interest and Produce thereof, which said Trust the said Court of Directors have consented and agreed to accept of: And whereas it has been agreed by and between the said Robert Lord *Clive*, and the said Court of Directors, that the said Eight Lacks of Rupees shall, from

the Twenty-ninth Day of September, which was in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six, carry Interest at and after the said Rate of £. 8. by the Hundred, by the Year, upon and subject to the several Trusts, Conditions, Agreements, and Provisions hereinafter mentioned: And whereas the said Robert Lord Clive, in pursuance of the said Agreement, hath delivered up the said Cash Notes for Five Lacks, and Three Lacks of Rupees, to the said Court of Directors, to be cancelled: Now this Indenture witnesseth, that for the better and more effectually carrying the aforesaid Agreement into Execution, it is hereby mutually covenanted, concluded, declared, and agreed, by and between the said Robert Lord Clive, and the said United Company, that the said Eight Lacks of Rupees shall remain in the Hands or Treasury of the said United Company; who shall Yearly and every Year, at their House or Office in *Leadenhall Street, London*, or in any other House or Place where the Business of the said Company shall be transacted and carried on, pay and allow the Sum of £. 8,042. 13 s. 4 d. of lawful Money of Great Britain, for and in Lieu of Interest of the said Eight Lacks of Rupees, being after the Rate of £. 8. by the Hundred, by the Year, to such Persons, in such Proportions, and for such Purposes, as are hereinafter mentioned, of and concerning the same. And it is further covenanted, concluded, and agreed upon, between the said Parties, that the Court of Directors of the said United Company, and their Successors, shall be perpetual Trustees, subject to the Agreements and Provisions hereinafter contained, of the said Fund of Eight Lacks of Rupees, for the due Application and Appropriation of the Interest and Produce thereof, from the Twenty-ninth Day of September last past, to and amongst, and for the Relief and Maintenance of European Officers and Soldiers who shall become Invalids, or superannuated, in the said United Company's Service, and of their Widows, and also the Widows of such Officers and Soldiers as shall die in the said United Company's Service, in the Shares, Dividends, and Proportions following (that is to say) To all Commissioned and Staff or Warrant Officers, One Moiety or Half Part of the ordinary stated Pay they were respectively entitled to whilst in Commission or Service; to all Sergeants, Corporals, and private Men, the like Pay is allowed and payable to the Our Pensioners of the same Ranks or Degrees belonging to *Chelsea Hospital*; and to the several Widows of all such Officers and Soldiers, One Quarter or Fourth Part of the ordinary stated Pay their respective Husbands were entitled to when in the said United Company's Service, Yearly and every Year, during their several and respective natural Lives: But it is declared, that the Provisions hereby intended for such Widows, shall be paid upon such Certificates and Testimonials only as the Court of Directors for the Time being shall think reasonable or necessary to intitle them thereto, and shall be payable during their respective Widowhoods, but no longer; and in case of their Inter-marriages, then such Provision shall from thenceforth cease. Provided always, and it is hereby further con-

cluded and agreed upon, by and between the said Parties, That no Officer or Soldier is to be or shall be intitled to any Bounty or Provision, under or by Virtue of these Presents, unless he shall, in the Judgment of the Court of Directors of the said United Company for the Time being, be found disabled by Wounds, or rendered incapable by Age or other Accidents, and unless he shall produce a Certificate from and under the Hand of his Commanding Officer, of his being an Invalid, and rendered incapable of further Service in *India*, together with an Approbation of such Certificate, by the Governor and Council of the Presidency where such Officer shall have served; but nevertheless, if any Officer or Soldier in the said Company's Service, residing or being in *England*, shall apply to the said Court of Directors to be admitted to the said Bounty or Provision, the said Court of Directors shall admit such Officer or Soldier thereunto, if they shall adjudge him to be a proper Object of such Bounty. Provided also, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, That the Bounty or Provision hereby intended for, and in Favour of, the said Officers, is only to extend to such of them as shall be obliged, through any of the Misfortunes above mentioned, to return to *England* in indigent Circumstances; and that all and every such Officers applying for the said Bounty, shall, previous to their becoming intitled thereto, according to their several Ranks or Commissions, make Oath in the most solemn Manner, before the Governor and Council, to the Purport and Effect following (that is to say) A Colonel shall swear that he, or any Person or Persons in Trust for him, is or are not feigned or possessed of, or intitled unto, any real and personal Estate to the Amount in Value together of £. 4,000—A Lieutenant Colonel to the Amount in Value of £. 3,000—A Major to the Amount in Value of £. 2,500—A Captain to the Amount in Value of £. 2,000—A Lieutenant to the Amount in Value of £. 1,000—and an Ensign or Cornet to the Amount in Value of £. 750. And in case of the Death of any Officer of the Ranks above mentioned, in the said United Company's Service, the Widow of every such Officer, before she shall be admitted to partake of the said Bounty or Pension, shall produce and lay before the Court of Directors of the said United Company, such Evidence as to them shall seem reasonable, that her Husband, under whom she derives such Claim, did not die feigned or possessed of real and personal Estate to the Amount herein before specified, according to his respective Rank in the said Service. Provided nevertheless, and it is further concluded and agreed upon, That the several Persons applying for the Benefit of the said Fund or Bounty shall be admitted and become intitled thereto, according to the Times of their respective Arrivals in *England*; and in Case any Disputes or Differences shall happen or arise, touching or concerning the Qualifications of Persons claiming Right to Pensions under these Presents, or the Distribution thereof, or the Times of their being respectively intitled thereto, such Differences or Disputes shall, from Time to Time, be decided and adjudged by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, and not otherwise. And

No Officer or Soldier to be admitted, unless disabled by Wounds, or rendered incapable by Age or other Accidents.

The Directors to be Judges.

Officers and Soldiers must produce a Certificate from their Commanding Officer of their being Invalids, and unfit for service in *India*, and an Approbation of such Certificate from the Governor and Council.

The Court may admit Petitioners in the Company's Service, residing in *England*, if they shall judge them fit Objects.

A Colonel worth less than he is not entitled to, or entitled to, such and personal Estate to the Value of a Colonel, £4,000, a Major, £3,000, a Captain, £2,500, a Lieutenant, £2,000, and an Ensign, of 750.

Widows must lay before the Court solid and true Evidence, that their respective Husbands did not die worth the same above specified.

To be intitled from the Times of their Arrival in *England*.

All Disputes or Doubts concerning Qualifications of Pensioners, Distribution thereof, or Time of Payment, to be decided by the Court of Directors only.

The 8 Lacks to bear 8 per Cent Interest.

Interest to be paid in *London*.

Court of Directors and their Successors to be perpetual Trustees.

The Trust to commence from the 29th of September 1769.

To be for Relief and Maintenance of European Officers and Soldiers, Invalids or superannuated, or the Widows of Widows of Officers and Soldiers dying in the Service.

Commissioned Staff, or Warrant Officers, to have Half the ordinary stated Pay they were intitled to whilst in Service.

Sergeants, Corporals, and private Men, the like Pay as the *Chelsea Pensioners* of the same Degree.

Widows of Officers and Soldiers to have one Fourth of the ordinary stated Pay their Husbands enjoyed whilst in Service.

To be paid yearly and every Year during their natural Lives.

Widows to be admitted on such Testimonials only, as the Court of Directors shall approve.

To continue as long as the Widows, and no longer.

Interest on the  
12th Lark, due  
29th Septem-  
ber, 1874, Value  
24 1/2 to be  
elect 12 to Ca-  
pital, and to  
may 9: per  
Cent. in to  
from that time.

whereas the Interest due from the said United Company, upon the said Cash Notes herein before mentioned, amounted, on the Twenty-ninth day of *September* last, to the Sum of *£. 24, 128* : Now it is hereby further concluded and agreed, by and between the said Parties to these Presents, that the said Sum of *£. 24, 128* shall remain in the Hands of the said United Company in *India*, and shall be deemed and considered as Capital, and shall carry Interest from the said Twenty-ninth day of *September* last, at and after the Rate of *£. 8* by the Hundred, by the Year, which Interest or yearly Produce thereof shall be from Time to Time paid, disposed of, and distributed, by the Court of Directors of the said United Company, for the Time being, in the first Place for the discharging all incident Charges and Expence attending carrying into Execution the Fund hereby established, and subject thereto, unto and amongst such Objects of Charity, belonging to the said United Company's Military Service, or the Widows or Families of such Objects as the said Court of Directors shall in their Discretions think fit. Provided also, and the said United Company do hereby covenant, promise, and

*Indies*; that then and in such Case the Interest and Produce of the said Trust Fund of Eight Lacks of Rupees, shall from thenceforth from Time to Time be applied, paid, and distributed, towards the Support, Relief, and Provision, of Marine Officers and Seamen, who shall become Invalids or Superannuated in the said United Company's Service, and the Widows of such of them as shall die in the said Service, during their respective Widowhoods only, in such Shares and Proportions, in Manner and Form, as in such Event shall happen, shall be concluded and agreed upon between the said United Company and the said *Robert Lord Clive*, or his legal Representative or Representatives. And lastly, It is hereby expressly stipulated and agreed, and the said United Company do hereby covenant with the said *Robert Lord Clive*, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, that in case it shall happen that the said United Company, after the Commencement of the said Year of Our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty-four, shall cease to employ a Military Force in their actual Pay and Service in the *East Indies*, and also Ships for carrying on their Trade and Commerce, then and in such Case, as soon as the said Event shall happen, the said United Company shall and will pay unto the said *Robert Lord Clive*, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, for his and their own Use, at their Treasury in *Calcutta* aforesaid, the full Sum of Five Lacks of *Sicca Rupees*, but subject nevertheless, with the Interest of the said Three Lacks of Rupees, in the Proportion the said Sums bear to each other, to the Payment of all such Pensions and Annuities, for the Lives of the Persons then intitled thereto only, as shall at the Time such Event shall happen be payable out of, or chargeable upon, the said Trust Fund, according to the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents. In Witness whereof the said United Company have hereunto affixed their Common Seal, and the said *Robert Lord Clive* hath set his Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above written.

(L. S.) *Clive.*

(Company's Seal.)

Sealed and delivered, being  
first duly stamped, by the  
within-named *Robert Lord  
Clive*, in the Presence of  
*Richard Holt,  
Thomas Marton.*

### General Regulations for transacting the Business of the Military Fund.

At a Court of Directors of the *East India*  
Company, *October 3, 1770.*

The Court, having taken into Consideration the Covenant between the *East India Company* and the Right honourable *Lord Clive*, for establishing a Fund for the Relief of *European Officers and Soldiers, Invalids or Superannuated, their Widows and the Widows of Officers and Soldiers dying in the Service, Resolved, That the following Rules and Regulations, founded on the said Deed, and as nearly conformable as the Nature of it will admit, to the Regulations for*

The contingent  
Falls to  
a project and  
all innocent  
expenses of carry-  
ing the burden  
Execution, and  
for fuel, Oil,  
of Charcoal,  
belonging to the  
Story, their  
Widow, or a  
man, as the  
Court is all  
think it.

If the Company should let, or part with their territorial Possessions in Bengal, to that Lord Clive's heirs, should agree before the Term agreed upon, or if the Company should sell, or transmit an Military Force in India before 1784; in either Case, the East India Co. to be retained to Lead Clive, or his Executors, but chargeable with their Property on all the Disputes, in relation to the East India Co. generally.

the Interest of  
the Eight Lacks  
to be applied for  
Relief of Offi-  
cers and Seamen,  
Invalids, or Su-  
perannuated,  
and the Widows  
of such of them  
as shall die in  
the Service, dur-  
ing Widowhood  
only.

If after 1784, the Company shall cease to employ either Troops or Shipping, they shall repay Lord Clive, or his Executors, the Five Lacks, chargeable with the Pensions that may then be upon them.

It the Company  
employ no Mi-  
lary Force in  
June after 1784.



paying the *Chofes* Pensioners, are proper to be observed in transacting the Business of this Fund; and that the Paymaster thereof do govern himself thereby, in paying such Pensions as shall be assigned upon the same.

which Certificate the Pensioners shall exhibit to the Persons directed to pay them, each Time of Payment, and no Pension shall be paid, unless this Certificate is produced by the Pensioner.

Taken from the Deed.

I. That every petitioning Officer and Soldier shall produce a Certificate from his Commanding Officer, of his being an Invalid, and rendered incapable of further Service in India, together with an Approbation of such Certificate, by the Governor and Council of the Presidency where such Officer or Soldier shall have served.

Taken from the Deed.

II. That every Commissioned Officer shall previously make Oath before the Governor and Council; viz. A Colonel, that he, or any Person in Trust for him, is not possessed of, or intitled to, real and personal Estate to the Value of £. 4000—A Lieutenant Colonel of £. 3000—A Major of £. 2500—A Captain of £. 2000—A Lieutenant of £. 1000—and an Ensign of £. 750.

Taken from the Deed.

III. That all Commissioned, Staff, or Warrant Officers shall have Half the ordinary stated Pay they enjoyed whilst in Service.

The King's Artillery are paid in this Manner.

IV. That Sergeants belonging to the Artillery shall receive Nine Pence per Day, and such as have lost a Limb One Shilling per Day: Private Men of the Artillery Six Pence per Day, and such as lose a Limb Nine Pence per Day.

The same Pay as the *Chofes* Pensioners receive.

V. That all other Non-commissioned Officers and private Men shall have Four Pence Three Farthings per Day.

Taken from the Deed.

VI. That all Officers and private Men shall be intitled from the Times of their respective Debarkations in England.

The King's Officers are paid in a similar Manner.

VII. That Commissioned Officers shall only be paid as their Pensions become due, and shall receive at the Company's Office in London only, either in Person, or by Power of Attorney, Half-yearly, at *Midsummer* and at *Christmas*.

The *Chofes* Pensioners are paid in this Manner.

VIII. That Non-commissioned Officers and private Men shall, immediately upon Admission, be paid in Advance for the remaining Number of Days of the current Half Year, and at the Expiration thereof every succeeding Half Year in Advance.

The same Regulation as is observed at *Chofes*.

IX. That Non-commissioned Officers and private Men, residing within Twenty-five Miles of London, shall be paid at the Company's Office in London, and not otherwise.

Founded upon the *Chofes* Regulations.

X. That such Non-commissioned Officers and private Men as reside at a greater Distance from London, or in Scotland or Ireland, be paid at such Times, by such Persons, and in such Manner, as the Court of Directors shall, from Time to Time, find convenient, in Person, and not otherwise.

This answers to the certified Copy of state Discharge given the *Chofes* Pensioners on Admission.

XI. That Non-commissioned Officers and private Men shall receive on Admission a Certificate thereof, signed by the Paymaster of this Fund, containing a Description of such Pensioner, his Age, and other Particulars,

## XII.

That Country Pensioners shall receive in Advance for the first Half Year, from *Midsummer* or *Christmas* next ensuing the Date of their Admission, on producing the above Certificate only, to the Persons appointed to pay them; but immediately after receiving such first Half-yearly Payment, every Pensioner shall make Two Affidavits of the same Tenor and Date, before a Magistrate, conformably to the printed Instructions he shall receive from the Paymaster of this Fund; one of which Affidavits must be transmitted to the said Paymaster in London, in such Manner as the Court of Directors shall from Time to Time direct; the other must be exhibited to the Person that shall be empowered to pay him, together with the Pensioner's Certificate of Admission; which Vouchers will intitle such Pensioner to receive again in Advance, at the Expiration of the Half Year. These Affidavits must be repeated, and sent to London twice a Year, immediately after *Midsummer* and *Christmas*.

The same Rule is observed as to the *Chofes* Pensioners.

## XIII.

That no Pensioner shall be paid in the Country, unless the above-mentioned Affidavit has been timely received by the Paymaster of this Fund in London.

The Rule at *Chofes*.

## XIV.

That if a Pensioner does not appear to claim his Pension for Three Half Years, he shall be considered as dead, and his Name be omitted in the Half-yearly Warrant; but if such Pensioner shall afterwards appear personally at the Company's Office in London, or furnish satisfactory Proof otherwise to the Court of Directors of his being alive, he shall again be put on the List, and receive all Arrears.

## XV.

That Widows of Commissioned Officers must lay before the Court such Evidence as to them shall seem reasonable, that their Husbands, under whom they derive their Claim, did not die possessed of real and personal Estate to the Amount specified in Regulation the Second, according to their respective Ranks in the Service.

Take from the Deed.

## XVI.

That Widows of Commissioned Officers be paid in Person, or by Power of Attorney, at the Company's Office in London only.

The same as the Officers.

## XVII.

That Widows of Non-commissioned Officers and private Men shall prove their Marriage to the Satisfaction of the Court of Directors.

## XVIII.

That Widows of Non-commissioned Officers and private Men, residing within Twenty-five Miles of London, shall be paid at the Company's Office in London only; and those who live at a greater Distance shall be paid in the same Manner, and upon the same Half-yearly Affidavits, as the Men; and in either Case they shall receive in Person, and not otherwise, as in Articles XI. and XII.

## XIX. That

## XIX.

That the Pensions granted to Widows shall continue during their Widowhood, and no longer.

## XX.

That the Pensions of Commissioned Officers and their Widows shall be paid neat, without any Fee or Deduction whatever.

## XXI.

That the Pensions of such Non-commissioned Officers, and their Widows, as receive in Person, in London, shall be paid neat, without any Fee or Deduction whatever.

## XXII.

That such of the Non-commissioned Officers and private Men, and such of their Widows, as are paid in the Country, shall each Time allow One Shilling to the Person that pays them, for his Trouble.

## XXIII.

That in Cases of Infamy, satisfactory Proof be made thereof to the Court of Directors, and the Pension paid to a Church Warden, in Behalf of the Parish, towards the Pensioner's Subsistence.

Instructions for the Pensioners on the Fund established for Relief of the honourable East India Company's Military, &c.

All Non-commissioned Officers and private Soldiers admitted Pensioners on the above Fund, residing within Twenty-five Miles of London, must receive in Person at the Company's Office there; and such as live at a greater Distance from London than Twenty-five Miles, as well as those in Scotland and Ireland, are hereby required and directed, that early in the Months of April and October, every Year, they do apply themselves to one of His Majesty's Justices of Peace in the Neighbourhood where they reside, and make Two Affidavits of the following Tenor, and of One Date (which Affidavits the Court of Directors of the East India Company request the said Magistrate to sign and date); viz.

I, *came before me,*  
One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *and made Oath that he*  
was admitted a Pensioner on the Military Fund of the honourable East India Company, the *Day of*  
17 *was then aged about*

Years, and was discharged for and now lives in the Parish of *in the*  
County of *Sworn before me,*

this Day of 17

One of the Two Affidavits drawn according to the above Form, sworn before, dated and attested by, a Magistrate, is to be sent by the General Post, directed (till further Orders) "To the Paymaster of the honourable East India Company's Military Fund, at the East India House, London;" the other Affidavit, of the same Tenor and Date, the Pensioner must keep, to shew, together with his Certificate of Admission, signed by the Paymaster, to the Person who shall be empowered to pay him in the Country.

The above-mentioned Affidavits must be made and transmitted to London in April and in October, so as to be received by the Company's Paymaster full Two Months before the 25th of June and the 25th of December respectively. They must be drawn on One Piece of Paper, big enough to fold up in Form of a Letter, and the above Direction wrote on the Back thereof, to avoid unnecessary Expence of Postage.

No Pensioner will be paid unless the above-mentioned Affidavit has been timely received, twice a Year, by the Paymaster of this Fund in London; nor unless the other Affidavit of the same Date, as well as the Certificate of Admission, are produced by the Pensioner every Time of Payment.

All Pensioners are to take particular Notice, that neither the Whole, nor any Part of their Pension Money will be paid at any Time, nor under any Pretence whatever, to any other Person or Persons than themselves only; consequently they cannot commission or empower any one to receive for them; and no Receipts, Acknowledgements, or Assignments for Money, any Pensioner may borrow on his Pension, will be discharged, or paid any Regard to, by the Paymaster of this Fund. But proper Care will be taken that the Pensioners themselves shall be regularly paid twice a Year, in whatever Part of England, Scotland, or Ireland, they may reside, provided they duly observe the Orders and Directions contained in these Instructions.

Every Pensioner who receives in the Country, is to allow One Shilling each Time of Payment, to the Person he is paid by.

## N° 15.

Moorshedabad, 17th December 1770.

At a Consultation;

P R E S E N T,

Richard Becker, Esquire, President,  
James Lawrell, and  
John Graham, Esquires.

From the Beghum.

THE Reason of the Nabob Muzzer Jung's Enmity and Ranciment is this; when Lord Clive came up the Country, he borrowed the Sum of Six Lacks of Rupees, for which he gave a Tuncawn Muzzafer Jung, Three Lacks of which having discharged to me, I paid it to Syf ul Dowlab, which has exalted his Displeasure; and the remaining Three Lacks due on that Account, as well as Two Lacks of the present Arrears, he procrastinated Payment of; and in order to sink this Money for his own Benefit, has bound his Loins with Enmity, to the utter Ruin of my Affairs, and to involve me in

Disgrace and Contempt: You will please to consider, Gentlemen, what the Nabob Sabit Jung (Lord Clive) assigned for the Support of my Honour and Credit; who is he that opposes and counteracts his Decrees? As I am acquainted with the Affairs of the Household; fearful of Discovery, he has placed me in Obscurity, and appointed ignorant People to Authority, who have lengthened the Hand of Usurpation upon the Treasure and Jewels. The Reason I have not before represented my Situation, is, the Nabob Muzzafer Jung's accompanying Mr. Becker, when he came to visit me, by which Means I was deprived of an Opportunity of speaking with him; but since, to my good Fortune, Mr. Reed, Mr. Lawrell, and Mr. Graham, are now arrived, and in their Visit administered me Comfort, I esteemed it the luckiest of Moments; and, after having lent away Moharek ul Dowlab, who at other Times never came near me, and only accompanied the Gentlemen at the Incitement of my Enemies; I revealed to them particularly the Uneasiness of my Heart. For your Information I have likewise now wrote you the Particulars of my

my Case, in Hopes that you will yield me-Redress, otherwise I swear by God and Jesus Christ, that I will leave Moorshedabad to go to the Committee, because living in this Disgrace is worse than Death.

At a Consultation at Moorshedabad the 3d of January 1771;

P R E S E N T,  
Messieurs { James Laurell, President,  
John Graham.

The Naib Subah delivers in the following Answer to the Representation of Mbunny Begum.

The Affair of the Six Laacks of Rupees is this. In the Time of Nudjum ul Dowlah, Lord Clive, through

my Means, borrowed of him Six Laacks of Rupees in Calcutta, and directed me to repay it from the Khallah. After Nudjum ul Dowlah's Death, before my Departure to Azimabad, I accordingly granted a Tuncaw for this Sum, Three Laacks of which were paid and lodged in the Mehallera of Mbunny Begum; but on meeting Lord Clive at Mongheer, on his Way down from the Presence, he informed me of his having paid Three Laacks as Pithcash, on procuring Sumnuds for the Appointment of Syf ul Dowlah to the Muzind, and directed me to write an Order not to discharge the Balance of the Tuncaw, which has been inserted in the King's Accounts with Syf ul Dowlah.

N<sup>o</sup> 16.

Extract Letter from the Right honourable Lord Clive to the Committees of Treasury and Correspondence, dated 28th August 1767.

Par. 33. BEFORE I conclude, you will permit me to suggest to you the Expediency of letting, as soon as possible, the Legacy of Five Laacks of Rupees left to me by the Nabob Jaffer Aly Cawn, in the Manner I proposed in my Letters to the Council at Fort William, dated 8th April 1766, and 19th January 1767; viz. as a Fund for the Maintenance of Officers and Soldiers disabled or superannuated in the Company's Service, and likewise for their Widows. The Donation of Three Laacks from the present Nabob, in

Aid of that Fund, will allow the Bounty to be extended to all your Settlements in general; and I think that its being finally regulated and publicly known, will greatly tend to the speedy Supply, as well as Encouragement, of the Officers and Men now wanting to complete your Military Establishment. On any Day you may be pleased to appoint, I will send my Lawyers to confer with yours upon the Subject, and adjust every necessary Regulation for the proposed Pensions without Delay.

N<sup>o</sup> 17.

Berkeley Square, 16th January 1768.

Gentlemen,

YOU are not unacquainted with the Fund which I propose to establish for the Maintenance of superannuated and invalided Officers and Soldiers, and their Widows. In my Letter to the Committees of Correspondence and Treasury of the 28th of August last (an Extract of which I inclose) I expressed my Desire that the Regulations might be speedily settled; but having not received any Answer from them, I now think proper to address you upon this Subject. My Idea, you will observe, was, that the Court of Directors should be Trustees for the Fund. What I have at present to request, is, that you would be pleased to signify to me your Resolution to undertake, or to decline, this Trust; more

especially as I am under an immediate Necessity of going Abroad for my Health, and several proper Objects have petitioned me for the Pension. The Advantages of the Company's Service, as well as the Happiness of Individuals, are so intimately connected with the Execution of this Plan, that I cannot but be impatient to see it completed.

I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,  
Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servant,  
Clive.

To the honourable the Court of Directors  
for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

N° 18.

C A S E.

AT the unanimous Request of a General Court of Proprietors of *East India* Stock, Lord *Clive* accepted the Government of *Bengal* in May 1764; and in Conformity to a new Regulation in that Month proposed and established, executed Covenants with the *East India* Company before he left *England*: The Form of which is hereto annexed, N° 1 and 2.

Lord *Clive* sailed from *England* the 4th of June 1764, and arrived in *Bengal* the 3d of May 1765.

The Nabob of *Bengal*, *Meer Mahomed Jaffer Cawn*, by a verbal Will (Copies of the Attestations whereof are hereunto annexed, N° 3, 4, and 5) left to Lord *Clive* a Legacy of Five Lack of Rupees, in Testimony of the great Regard and Friendship he had for Lord *Clive*, and in Gratitude for the many important Services formerly rendered the Nabob by his Lordship.

The Nabob died the 5th of February 1765; Lord *Clive* being then on his Voyage could have no Knowledge of the Nabob's Intention, nor can any Suspicion arise by his Lordship having influenced the Nabob in his Favour.

Although Lord *Clive* might have declined accepting the Donation until he had been out of the Service, when the Covenant could not bind him, yet he immediately accepted it, with a declared Purpose to establish the same as a Fund for the Support of Invalid Officers and Soldiers in the Company's Service, and their Widows; and offered to confirm the Fund by a proper Instrument or Deed of Gift for ever, agreeable to the due Forms of Law, unless the Company should claim and be able to prove a Right to the Legacy under the abovementioned Covenants, or otherwise. Copies and

Extracts of Letters, and other Papers relating to this Matter, are also herewith left for your Consideration, N° 6.

If Lord *Clive* had not accepted the Government of *Bengal*, the *East India* Company could not have had any Pretence to claim this Legacy. And though Lord *Clive* was actually Governor and President at the Time he accepted it, yet neither his Offices, nor the Pay or Emoluments belonging to them, commenced till his Arrival in *Bengal*, although the Company paid the Expences of his Passage thither; and as the Bounty intended by the Nabob to Lord *Clive* was a testamentary Act out of personal Regard for him, and for Services rendered the Nabob several Years before the Covenant subsisted; and as his Lordship was not, at the Time it was given, in the actual Exercise of either of the Offices to which he was appointed, your Opinion is desired.

Whether Lord *Clive*, under the Circumstances of this Case, is intitled to the above-mentioned Legacy, without the Consent of the Court of Directors of the *East India* Company.

I am of Opinion that Lord *Clive*, under the Circumstances of this Case, is intitled to the abovementioned Legacy, without the Consent of the Court of Directors of the *East India* Company; and that the Covenants could never be intended to restrain those who executed them from receiving a Legacy left (as in the present Instance) as an honourable Mark of Gratitude, Friendship, and Esteem.

Fl<sup>t</sup> Norton.

*Lincoln's Inn*, 6th May 1769.

N° 19.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to *Bengal*, dated the 16th of March 1768.

136. ALTHOUGH we are of Opinion that by the Spirit of the Covenants entered into by Lord *Clive*, he could not accept of the Legacy bequeathed him by the Nabob *Meer Jaffer*, without our Consent; yet, considering the benevolent Purposes to which his Lordship intends it to be applied, we do permit him to accept the same for the Uses proposed: And we shall, upon his Lordship's Return from Abroad,

consider of such further Measures as may be proper for carrying the same into Execution; which will be communicated to you in our next Advices.

137. It is with great Pleasure we observe, the Nabob has given the Sum of Three Lacks towards the Extension of this beneficent Design; and he is to be acquainted, it gives us the strongest Impression of his Generosity.

6

STATE of the *East India Company's MILITARY FUND*, with a particular Account of the Distribution.

STATE of the Capital MILITARY FUND of £. 100,533. 6. 8., at *Christmas* 1772. Annual Interest £. 8,042.

To 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Year's Interest, at 8 *per Cent.* from 29th *September* 1769 to *Christmas* 1772 ——— £. 26,136 10 —

By Cash paid in Pensions from 29th *September* 1769 to *Christmas* 1772 ———  
By Balance ———

£. 2,046 8 —  
— 23,090 2 —  
£. 26,136 10 —

STATE of the Contingent MILITARY FUND of £. 24,128., at *Christmas* 1772. Annual Interest £. 1,930.

To 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Years Interest, at 8 *per Cent.* from 29th *September* 1769 to *Christmas* 1772 ——— £. 6,272 10 —

By Cash paid for Gratuities and other incidental Expenses from 29th *September* 1769 to *Christmas* 1772 ———  
By Balance ———

£. 2,512 19 —  
— 3,759 11 —  
£. 6,272 10 —

Standing CHARGES on the Capital MILITARY FUND at *Christmas* 1772.

1 Captain of Artillery	—	—	£. 100	—
6 Captains of Infantry	—	—	547 10	—
2 Lieutenants of Ditto	—	—	91 5	—
1 Ensign	—	—	36 10	—
2 Widows of Lieutenant Colonels	—	—	182 10	—
3 Widows of Majors	—	—	205 6 3	—
5 Widows of Captains	—	—	182 10	—
5 Widows of Lieutenants of Infantry	—	—	114 1 3	—
1 Widow of a Lieutenant of Artillery	—	—	25	—
1 Widow of a Lieutenant Fireworker	—	—	18 5	—
1 Widow of an Ensign	—	—	18 5	—
1 Widow of a Master Gunner	—	—	15	—
93 Private Men of the Infantry	—	—	671 16 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	—
3 Artillery Men	—	—	123 3 9	—
3 Ditto	—	—	27 7 6	—
2 Widows of private Men	—	—	7 12 1	—
			£. 2,366 2 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	—

Standing CHARGES on the Contingent MILITARY FUND at *Christmas* 1772.

Annual Allowance to the Widow of Colonel <i>Ford</i>	—	—	£. 200	—
Additional Allowance to the Widow of Major <i>Gauin</i>	—	—	52 10	—
Ditto to the Widow of Major <i>Kincker</i>	—	—	31 11 3	—
Ditto to Ensign <i>Sinclair</i>	—	—	9 2 6	—
Ditto to Sergeant <i>Nesbit</i>	—	—	9 2 6	—
Ditto to Sergeant <i>Fitz-Gerrell</i>	—	—	35	—
Annual Allowance to Miss <i>Buckman</i>	—	—	3 12 6	—
Ditto to <i>Thomas Pearce</i>	—	—	210	—
Salaries	—	—	30	—
Horse Rent and Taxes	—	—	20	—
Allowance for Maid Servant	—	—	20	—
Coals, Candles, and other Trifles	—	—	20	—

## N° 21.

THIS is to certify, That on the Twelfth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-six, Mr. *Simcon Droz* did appear before me, *Samuel Middleton*, One of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, and Districts thereof, at the *English* Factory House in *Patna*, and made Oath to the following Effect:

"That immediately after the Demise of the Nabob "*Jaffier Aly Khan*, late Suba of the Kingdom of Bengal and Provinces of *Babar* and *Orixa*, he, to the best of his Recollection (and Knowledge at that Time in the "*Hindustani* Language) did hear Maharage *Nundcomar*, then Duan of the Provinces, declare to Captain *John*

"*Stables*, and some other Gentlemen, in *Moradbaug* Gardens, that the Nabob, a few Moments before his Death, earnestly and repeatedly urged Nabob *Mezam ul Dowla* his Son, and the said Duan, to present to the Right honourable Lord *Clive*, on his Arrival in Bengal, the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees, as a Testimony of his Regard for him; he (the said "*Jaffier Aly Khan*) adding that had he lived till his Lordship's Arrival, 'twas his Intention to offer the above-mentioned Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees to him."

*Saml Middleton.*

## N° 22.

My Lord,

I Was this Day honoured with your Letter of the 4th Instant.

Your Lordship was misinformed with regard to my being present when *Myr Jaffier* directed the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees to be paid to you by Way of Legacy.—I only happened to be present when *Nundcomar* mentioned the Circumstance to Captain *Stables*, and some other Gentlemen, at *Moradbaug*.

I herewith inclose to your Lordship my Deposition upon Oath, made before Mr. *Middleton*, wherein I have fully declared all that came to my Knowledge relative to this Matter.

I am, with great Respect,

My Lord,

Your very obedient, and  
most humble Servant,

*Simcon Droz.*

*Patna,*  
October 12th 1766.

The Right honourable Lord *Clive*.

The End of the THIRD VOLUME.







